FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 JUNE 1984

Gulf Conflict

Tankers Attacked — Iraqi fighter planes attacked two "large maritime targets" south of Khark Island on 3 June, scoring accurate and effective hits, INA announced citing a military spokesman. The Turkish tanker *Buyuk Hun* was hit by Iraqi missiles which killed three members of its crew, Ankara radio disclosed. A Turkish Foreign Ministry statement reported by ANATOLIA noted that Turkey is seeking the speedy return of the crew as well as detailed information on the attack, adding that "additional action" will be taken when this information has been obtained. The Turkish ship was hit by Exocet missiles fired "from a relatively long distance" by Super Etendard aircraft, according to an Iranian military official cited by IRNA. ANATOLIA said that the Turkish shipping company could not confirm the attack on a second Turkish ship.

Security Council Resolution — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal voiced his government's "satisfaction" with the UN Security Council resolution condemning recent attacks on Saudi and Kuwaiti ships in the Gulf, SPA reported. He expressed hope that Iran will respond to the resolution. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz declared that the resolution condemned Iran's "aggression" but indicated that Iraq had hoped it would be "more clear," according to KUNA.

Meanwhile, an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio characterized the resolution as another "dark page" in the Security Council's dossier and condemned the Council's indifference to Iraqi attacks that began "months ago." The Iranian statement asserted that security of Persian Gulf waterways is "indivisible," adding that maintaining this security is the responsibility of the Gulf states. It also warned that parties providing loans or other assistance to Iraq's war effort will bear the responsibility for the consequences of the war. In a related statement reported by Tehran radio, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said Iran did not expect anything different from the Security Council, adding that Iran will not take orders from anyone. In a related report, IRNA claimed that the Security Council resolution encouraged the 3 June Iraqi attack on the Turkish tanker, asserting that failure to condemn Iraqi attacks on Gulf shipping provided the Iraqi Government with "official permission" to continue them.

Diplomatic Initiatives — An Iranian Foreign Ministry official departed for a 3-day visit to the Soviet Union on 3 June at the invitation of the USSR Foreign Ministry, Tehran radio reported. Meanwhile, two "top-ranking" Algerian officials departed for Iran and Iraq bearing messages from President Chadli Bendjedid in a new "mediation bid," AFP announced. In arrival remarks reported by Tehran radio, the speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly refused to describe this mission as one of mediation, saying instead that he was in Tehran to "conclude some good work."

In a related report, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official arrived in Tehran on 2 June for talks at the Foreign Ministry, IRNA disclosed. In remarks reported by Tehran radio, the Japanese official denied he would act as a mediator between Iran and Iraq. An Iranian Foreign Ministry official asserted that the visit fell within the framework of bilateral relations.

Lebanon

Prime Minister Rashid Karami, in remarks reported by Beirut radio on 2 June, disclosed that he has demanded the closure of Israel's liaison office in Ad-Dubayyah because the abrogation of the 17 May agreement has rendered it "illegitimate." Coordinator for Lebanese Affairs Uri Lubrani told the Israeli Cabinet the following day that Israel had still received no official notice from the Lebanese Government concerning the office, according to an official announcement broadcast by Jerusalem radio.

Meanwhile, citizens in Beirut staged a "massive popular march" to mark the beginning of a week of "popular anger" against the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, Beirut radio reported. The demonstration followed Minister of State for Southern Affairs and Reconstruction Nabih Birri's call for all Lebanese to participate in protests against the Israeli presence, according to the radio. On the other hand, a Lebanese Forces statement on Prime Minister Karami's program submitted to the Chamber of Deputies criticized the government for considering southern Lebanon the main issue and for focusing only on the Israeli occupation without mentioning the Syrian occupation. The Phalangist militia's statement which was broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, also deplored much of Karami's program to change the political system and restructure the Army, though it conceded that his proposals contained "some sound ideas."

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat urged Karami to authorize the reopening of PLO offices in Beirut, AFP reported citing 'Arafat's interview with the Paris weekly *AL-YAWM AS-SABI'*. Camille Sham'un, one of the Christian leaders in Karami's government, described 'Arafat's request as unwise, asserting that the reopening of a PLO office would be a direct invitation to Israel to continue its occupation of Lebanese territory, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Syria

Rif'at al-Asad Ends Visit — Vice President Rif'at al-Asad and his delegation ended their visit to the Soviet Union on 1 June, Damascus radio reported. The vice president described his talks with Soviet leaders as "very positive and fruitful," the radio added.

Kuwaiti Aid — The Kuwaiti National Assembly rejected the Finance Committee's recommendation to cut aid to Syria by 53 million dinars during a session on 30 May in which the Assembly approved the Kuwaiti budget for 1984-85, the newspaper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* disclosed.

Libya

"Severe" punishment of the Sudanese Government has become "a national and security duty" for Libyans, according to JANA. The agency reported increased popular pressure for "revenge in broad daylight" against Sudan for its involvement in "planned terrorist acts."

Meanwhile, two members of the Muslim Brotherhood were executed on 3 June for involvement in a "terorist plot" against Libya, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio announced.

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Government Portrays Successes Over Rebel Bands

Masud Forces Routed

LD030608 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Kabul, June 2, BAKHTAR — Now the answer to the question of Panjsher is completely obvious, and even the most ultra-rightwing circles and the voices of reaction and imperialism are compelled to confess that the blows of the heroic Armed Forces of our country on the genocidal and criminal band of cursed Ahmad Shah were decisive and vital.

In the course of recent combat operations, the heroic and valorous Armed Forces of the country have dealt deadly and heavy blows on the soldout band of Ahmad Shah, mainly in Onab, (Iawakh), Rokhah, Bazarak, Astaneh, Barak, Do Aab, Dashtak, (Pishghor), Mata, Gongi, and Dasht-e Rivat areas.

In the valleys of Marashtan, Hesajak, Gul Zafgar, Shofaie, Parefda, the Armed Forces of the country have reached to the end of the heights of Shakh Safid, (Oonjal), Hazara, Pizgaran Abdullah Khail, and advanced to the last glaciers of (Sad Barg) and the heights of Shahri Gholghola and in the southern valley to the east of Khifj and the end of glaciers and followed the assorted groups of the enemies and annihilated them.

Deports of ammunition and arms and the means of communication of enemies were either destroyed or seized.

Now, the heroic Armed Forces of the country have ensured complete security in the beautiful Panjsher Valley. The red banners of the revolution are hoisted on the highest mountain peaks of Panjsher. Panjsher is resuming its tranquillity and no devilish force is able to create obstacles on the path of peaceful work of our compatriots in Panjsher.

After the successful operation carried out in Panjsher Valley, the PDPA and the Government of the DRA are providing all possibilities for the return of honorable Panjsher residents to their houses and dwellings.

Group Crushed in Jowzjan

LD011942 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] A group of rebels, these traitors to the homeland, people, and revolution, who were disrupting the peaceful lives of the people of Laghmani village, Tokzar, Jowzjan Province, was recently crushed, together with their ringleader, Khayr Mohammad (Nemani), by the officers and troops of the tribal regiment of Sozma Qal'a village of Tokzar District.

Eighteen assorted weapons, a large quantity of ammunition, eight rocket-launcher shells, two antitank mines, three horses, and documents and leaflets which prove their links with counterrevolutionary bands abroad were seized from these criminals.

Other Security Force Victories

LD031506 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1245 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Kabul, 3 Jun (BAKHTAR) — The security forces of the country are daily eliminating the enemies of the people's security and tranquillity. With the cooperation of the noble people of the country, they are exposing and crushing them.

A spokesman for the country's security forces said that as a result of successful operations by the security forces in Parvan Province, recently 89 counterrevolutionary elements were crushed and a number of them captured. The security forces also seized 34 various types of weapons with 12,500 rounds of ammunition, 1 DShK, 49 hand grenades, 9 foodstuff depots, 3 ammunition depots, 1 medicine depot and a number of antistate leaflets. Three DShK's, 10 rocket launchers, 1 mortar, and 3 of their hideouts were destroyed.

As a result of other operations carried out in Sangcharak District of Jowzjan Province, a number of counterrevolutionary elements were crushed and two armed people were captured. One DShK, one foodstuff depot and one of the enemy's hideouts were destroyed.

According to another report, as a result of successful operations by the vigilant security forces of the country in Naray and (Sekandar Kheil) regions of Paktia Province, a number of rebels were eliminated and a number wounded. Two guns, two mortars, two DShK's, and four horses loaded with the enemy's weapons were destroyed and eliminated.

Another report says that as a result of operations by the country's security forces in Herat city, a number of counterrevolutionary elements were crushed. The security forces seized 18 assorted weapons, 1 DShK, 50 hand grenades, 3 other weapons, 1 vehicle loaded with weapons, and 2 of the enemy's hideouts were destroyed in the operations.

Rebel Group 'Repents'

LD030418 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] A group of 100 men from Jowzjan Province, who had been deceived by counterrevolutionary propaganda and stood in its ranks, has realized the truth of the April Revolution and taken advantage of the amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium. The men went to the security forces in Sangcharak District and joined the people and revolutionary government.

At a meeting held on this occasion, the secretary of Jowzjan Provincial Party Committee spoke about the humane and progressive policy of our revolutionary government. Then, the ringleader of the group, (Mohammed Ebrahim), repenting his past actions, promised sacrifice in defense of the gains of the April Revolution. The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that the group was then integrated into the tribal regiment of Sozma Qal'a village.

Mujahidin Kill 38 Government, Soviet Troops

BK011619 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say 38 Soviet-Karmal soldiers were killed and 24 others wounded by Afghan mujahidin during encounters in Lowgar and Kabul Provinces. The mujahidin damaged two tanks, one oil tanker, and four military trucks, and captured a large quantity of arms and ammunition. They attacked a Soviet-Karmal troop and killed a number of soldiers in the (Pol-e Zaidabad) area of the Lowgar Province. One mujahidin was injured and two houses were destroyed as a result of shelling.

130 Civilians Killed in Bombing

BK020621 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan, about 130 civilians, mostly women and children, were killed in bombing raids carried out by Soviet military gunships. The mujahidin shot down a Soviet helicopter.

Earlier, mujahidin attacked a convoy of Soviet-Karmal troops in the (Khwaja Malik) area of the Arghandab subdivision in Qandahar Province, damaging many tanks and military vehicles. Mujahidin also attacked and set fire to a military security post of the Karmal administration near the Baghlan Province capital in (Shahban). Mujahidin also seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition. In addition, mujahidin killed a Soviet soldier in (Qandooz) Province.

Soviet Helicopter Downed

LD030430 Riyadh SPA in English 1919 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Islamabad, June 2, SPA — Afghan mujahidin in Arghandab area of Qandahar Province, in southeastern Afghanistan, shot down a Soviet helicopter gunship during fighting resulting from resistance attack on Soviet-Afghan convey on May 24.

Unofficial AGENCY AFGHAN PRESS (AAP) said here today the mujahidin attack on Soviet-Afghan convey resulted in destruction of several tanks and military trucks.

The Soviets resorted to aerial bombing in retaliation during which a helicopter gunship (MI-24) was shot down.

Bombing took a heavy toll of civilian life, AAP said. Over 130 Afghan, mostly women and children were killed, AAP said.

DRA's 'Fraternal Solidarity' With Vietnam Stressed

LD030622 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 3 Jun 84

["BAKHTAR Statement" — BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, June 2, BAKHTAR — The aggression and the military provocative acts of the hegemonists of China across the borders of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has continuously lasted for over a month. Despite the severe protests of the international public opinion, not only these agressions have not ceased but it has attained further dimensions in the last week. [as received]

The Chinese infantry and artillery forces have continuously shelled the border towns in Lang San Provinces and even impudently have occupied over 500 square metres of the territory of Vietnam. Material and human casualties have also been incurred as a result of the irresponsible acts which have been unleashed by Beijing authorities.

This is not the first time that the Chinese hegemonists have uncovered their enmity and hostility against the heroic Vietnam, which has resisted valorously for over a half a century against the foreign aggressors and occupiers, colonialists and imperialists, in the form of border provocations and shameless aggressions in the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The people of the world are informed very well from the substance of these aggressions which have become evident and more extensive after the visit of Ronald Reagan, president of the United States.

Now the policy of China has knotted so much with the strategy of the world imperialism headed by US imperialism that one must not expect anything else from hegemonism other than the implementation of the White House instructions underlying the creation of hotbeds and the escalation of tension in various parts of Asia.

In the world strategy of imperialism, especially in the continent of Asia, Far East, and the Southeast Asia, China now possesses an important place and undertakes special obligations in the framework of the strategic axis of Washington-Beijing-Tokyo-Seoul.

It is not surprising that following the visit of Reagan to Beijing, the Chinese provocations across the Vietnamese borders have stepped up considerably.

In one way one can say that Americans who had been thrown away through the doors by the heroic Vietnamese people after eleven years of strenuous armed struggles are now want to come back through the window in collusion with Beijing authorities.

Likewise, it is not hidden that the Chinese had aspired to salvage the murderous Pol-Pot gang from a complete annihilation through exercising military pressures on the Vietnamese borders. The gang is responsible for mass annihilation of more than four million peoples in Kampuchea.

The peoples of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, who themselves are the target of varied imperialist and hegemonist conspiracies, express their militant and fraternal solidarity with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, while being fully conscious of her tested strength in reverting foreign aggressions, and regard this strength as being an important factor for peace and stability in Southeast Asia. They express their profound indignation as to the continuation of the provocation and the expansionist policy staged by the Beijing leadership.

The rising peoples of Afghanistan are of firm conviction that the Socialist Republic of Vietnam will deal the occupationist forces a telling blow and an unforgettable lesson, as they have heroically dealt with imperialist aggressors in their contemporary history of struggles — and as they have stood with unequal gallantry against a full-fledged Chinese aggression staged some years before.

The heroic Vietnamese people are not alone, the powerful camp of peace and socialism, the great Soviet Union at the head, and all forces of peace and social progress are on their side.

PRC, U.S. 'Collusion' in Aiding Rebels Blasted

LD040728 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Kabul, June 3, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BIA writes:

The continued defeats suffered by the hirelings of imperialism and reaction operating inside the country against the valorous people of Afghanistan have caused the wrath and indignation of the conductors of the undeclared war against the DRA. The world imperialism, headed by the United States, in an effort to offset the great material and moral vanquishments suffered by counterrevolutionary bands, especially in the valley of Panjsher, not only steps up its own military and material assistance to the exiles and intensifies its propaganda and psychological war against the national and democratic system of the DRA and its supporters but is striving to organize its allies, inter alia the reactionary regimes and the Chinese hegemonists, for advancing subversive activities against Afghanistan.

A special role in this matter is entrusted to Beijing, which at the present moment possesses the second position after Washington in view of the amount of hostility to the DRA and assistance to the counterrevolution.

The subject of raising the assistance to the counterrevolution of Afghanistan in military and propaganda form was studied and discussed during the visit of Reagan to the People's Republic of China as well as during the visit of Li Xiannian, president of the People's Republic of China, to Islamabad. In this way, the collusion between imperialism and hegemonism against the revolutionary Afghanistan and for the creation of hostile Washington-Beijing axis against the people of Afghanistan has become evident more than before and has taken a real form.

The facts show that the Chinese hegemonists in an unprecedented manner strive to accomplish the advices of its Western allies for disrupting the successful march of the April Revolution and for undermining the efforts of the Afghan people directed towards the defence of the freedom and independence of their country.

In spring 1984, the provision of arms and ammunitions by Beijing to the Afghan counterrevolutionary organizations was increased. A considerable quantity of Chinese-made arms was confiscated from the mercenary bands of imperialism and reaction in various parts of the country by the security forces of the DRA.

Included among the confiscated arms and ammunitions were machine-gunned pistols [as received], light and heavy machine guns, rocket launchers, mortars, bullets, hand grenades and mines.

In addition to increasing assistance to the counterrevolution of Afghanistan, Beijing has given the utmost attention to the political and moral abetting of the counterrevolution of Afghanistan. For example, the president of Chinese XINHUA news agency visited the Afghan fugitives camp located near Peshawar. There he invited the Afghan counterrevolutionary elements to continue their struggle for the so-called independence of Afghanistan and assured them that China support their struggle. He also made anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet accusations.

The statement made by Wang Chuanbin, ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Islamabad, in May of the current year, concerning the delivery of the so-called humane assistance rendered to the Afghan refugees in Karachi possessed the same provocative tone.

Likewise, there are evident facts and figures on hand about the participation of China in the extension of propaganda infrastructure of the Afghan counterrevolution through giving them propaganda equipment, to install them [as received] and to train technical experts. The Chinese journalists in Pakistan have close links with propaganda centres of Afghan counterrevolutionaries in Islamabad, Peshawar, and other areas.

By keeping permanent contacts with the counterrevolutionary ringleaders who receive material help from China, the latter strives to broadly impose upon them their ideological ideas; as also China through Maoist group wishes to form the so-called "National United Front of Afghanistan" and through it to give to the so-called front of the counterrevolutionary elements a spirit of the so-called revolutionary programme.

The proceedings of the trial held recently in Kabul about the ringleaders of the Maoist counterrevolutionary organization which was functioning secretly in the territory of Afghanistan clearly showed the close and direct link existing between Beijing and the enemies of the people of Afghanistan.

Therefore, it becomes clear day by day that the Chinese hegemonists by following its chauvinist objectives colludes with international imperialism and reaction headed by USA in its fight against the democratic and revolutionary Afghanistan. Their strivings for disrupting the victorious march of the revolution of Afghanistan is doomed. The people of Afghanistan showed in action that it would never give any chance to such filthy intentions.

Buddhist Group Massacres 80 Villagers

BK040840 Hong Kong AFP in English 0824 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] Dhaka, June 4 (AFP) — Tribal guerrillas massacred at least 80 people and injured 800 others, 200 seriously, in a pre-dawn raid on several villages in the south eastern Chittagong hill tracts, *THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER* said today, quoting local administration sources.

The guerrillas, from the outlawed Buddhist Shanti Bahini group, armed with automatic weapons and shotguns, surrounded three villages on Friday and unleashed the slaughter, said *THE OBSERVER*. The paper said that the guerrillas loosed a "reign of terror" on unarmed men, women and children "in a barbarian manner." They chased villagers who fled to the forests and killed them, the report said. Residents of Bhushansara and two other adjoining villages involved in the massacre were mostly people from the plain districts who had settled in the hill districts under a government rehabilitation programme.

THE OBSERVER said the Shanti Bahini forces fled into the forests when soldiers were rushed to the scene. Army helicopters moved out several hundred injured persons to the combined military hospital in Chittagong. Chittagong officials, cited by *THE OBSERVER*, said the situation in the Bhushansara area had returned to normal with troops deployed throughout the area.

The Shanti Bahini group, based in the Chittagong hill tracts, has been fighting since 1975 against the Bangladeshi Government, seeking autonomy for the region and a halt to settlement in the hill districts which border India and Burma. The group is said to have 6,500 members, including 1,500 well armed troops.Several thousand insurgents and government troops have been killed in clashes during the last nine years, informed sources said.

There are more than two dozen tribal groups in the hill tracts. The Shanti Bahini has itself suffered internal feuding recently and has split into two main factions.

Last year the government offered a six-month amnesty period for tribal insurgents to surrender. The amnesty ended in April and government officials said about 400 Shanti Bahini members had given themselves up. But Friday's killings have been seen as a telling reminder to the authorities that the Shanti Bahini was still a force to be reckoned with.

Foreign Minister To Pay 3-Day Visit to GDR

BK011243 Dhaka BSS in English 1106 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Dhaka, June 1 BSS — Bangladesh Foreign Minister Aminur Rahman Shamsud Doha will pay a three-day official visit to the German Democratic Republic (GDR) from June 6, it was officially announced here Thursday.

During his visit, the Bangladesh foreign minister is expected to call on Mr. Eric Honecker, chairman of the GDR Council of State, and Mr. Willi Stoph, the prime minister.

Broadcasting, Cultural Agreements Expected

BK020715 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] The foreign minister, Mr A.R. Shamsud Doha, has described the present relations between Dhaka and Moscow as good. Talking to newsmen informally in the capital yesterday, he said both Bangladesh and Soviet Union are working for maintaining normal relations.

He said during his coming visit to the German Democratic Republic he will sign two agreements on broadcasting and cultural exchanges. He said the barter trade between the two countries will also be reviewed to include [words indistrict].

Doha Departs Dhaka 3 June

BK040148 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] The foreign minister, Mr A.R. Shamsud Doha, left Dhaka yesterday evening for Berlin on his 3-day official visit to the German Democratic Republic.

During the visit, two agreements on cooperation in sound broadcasting and television will be signed between the two countries. Besides, the Bangladesh and GDR will also sign the executive program for 1984-85 on the cultural and scientific cooperation agreement concluded earlier between the two countries.

Ershad Swears in New Ministers in Dhaka

BK011203 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1100 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] President Ershad administered the oath of office to two newly appointed ministers and one minister of state at a simple but impressive ceremony at Banga Bhavan in Dhaka this morning.

The ministers are Reazuddin Ahmed Bhola Mian and Shah Moazzam Hossain; Abu Naser Khan Bhasani is the minister of state.

Those present included members of the Council of Ministers, high-ranking military and civilian officers, political leaders, and the elite of the city.

Barter Trade Protocol With Poland Signed

BK011053 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Bangladesh and Poland yesterday signed a barter protocol for exchange of goods and commodities worth 750 million taka

each way. The two countries also signed a memorandum of understanding contemplating exchange of additional merchandise valued over 250 million takas. The two sides agreed that the exchange will take place in accordance with the demands in the two countries on self-balancing basis.

The accords were signed by the leader of the six-member Polish trade delegation, Mr (Stanislawski), and the joint secretary in the Ministry of Commerce. Under the barter protocol, Bangladesh will export jute goods, tea, hides and skin, leather and leather products, tobacco and a number of nontraditional items.

Items listed for imports included rolled steel (?plates), MS billets, rails, smelting plants, sulphur, gas meters, typewriters, water sewerage pumps, and meters and other engineering products. So far six commodity exchange protocols have been signed between Poland and Bangladesh since the two countries signed a trade agreement in June 1972.

Prime Minister Addresses Nation on Punjab Violence

BK021625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1518 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Fellow citizens: These past months my heart has been heavy with sorrow, each day's tragedies adding to the anguish. Punjab is uppermost in all our minds. The whole country is deeply concerned. The matter has been discussed and spoken about time and again, yet an impression has been assiduously created that it is not being dealt with. My colleagues and I have repeatedly explained in Parliament and outside government's readiness to accept all reasonable demands given to me by the Akali Dal when they met me before starting their agitation. But new demands continued to be pressed. Unfortunately, the leadership of the agitation appears to have been seized by a group of fanatics and terrorists whose instruments for achieving whatever they may have in view are murder, arson, and looting. Large-scale violence and terrorism gripped the state.

Let us look at these problems and issues in perspective. In 1981, the Akali Dal presented a large number of demands. As soon as we received their memorandum, I began a dialogue with them. Since then the process of consultation and discussion has not been interrupted by government. From the very beginning we regarded these issues as national issues transcending narrow party interests. We took the opposition parties into confidence and associated them with the discussions in an effort to work out a solution that would command the widest acceptance. Throughout these discussions, our attitude was one of accommodation of all reasonable demands. Turmoil and violence in Punjab benefit no one except those who want to undermine the unity and integrity of India. It was against the background of these larger national considerations that we have been trying to evolve a consensus on the disputed claims and counrclaims. Why then, some people ask, has there been no final settlement? This question should legitimately be addressed to those who are unwilling to give up morchas [agitations] and bundhs [strikes].

Wherever the demands did not affect the rights of other states, or where they could be fitted into a wider framework, the government had no hesitation in accepting them. For example, the government accepted all Akali demands genuinely referred to as religious, and I initiated action to implement the decisions. The sale of tobacco, liquor, and meat within demarcated areas in the walled city of Amritsar has been banned. The government agreed to arrange for the direct relay on All-India Radio of the kirtan [Sikh hymns] from the Golden Temple. However, the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temples Management] Committee has so far denied facilities within the temple for such relay. Sikh passengers have been allowed to carry kirpans [knives] on domestic flights of a size agreed to between the representatives of Akali Dal and government. The government also agreed to consider the formulation of an All-India Gurdwara [Sikh temples] bill for historical gurdwaras in India and started discussions with various concerned parties.

The demand for the amendment of Article 25 of the Constitution [to declare Sikhs as separate religious entity] was not included in the original list. However, we did not wish to take a legalistic attitude. When this demand was presented belatedly, and even though it was backed by a highly reprehensible agitation of burning copies of the Constitution, the government offered to consult the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee and other representatives of the Sikh community as well as legal experts and undertake such legislation by a way of amendment of Article 25-2B as may be necessary to remove doubts on this point.

On the question of center-state relations, a high level commission under Justice Ranjitsingh Sarkaria has already been established. We informed the Akali Dal that they are free to present to it any submissions on this subject which fall with the terms of reference of the commission.

The two remaining demands involve the rights and claims of states other than Punjab. These relate to river water and territories. Under the river water issue, the government agreed to refer the dispute between Punjab and Haryana on the surplus water of the Rabi-Beas to a tribunal presided over by a Supreme Court judge. There was agreement on this at a tripartite meeting between government, representatives of the Akali Dal, and of opposition parties. But the Akali Dal now seeks to reopen the decision reached as early as 1955 regarding the sharing of water with Rajasthan and has also raised the issue of the Jammuna water.

As regards territorial disputes, I have repeatedly stated that Chandigarh will go to Punjab, provided Haryana gets its proper share of some Hindi-speaking areas which are now in Punjab. In spite of our best efforts, the two states have not been able to reach an agreement on the territories to be transferred. Government has suggested that the entire territorial dispute, including Chandigarh and Abohar-Fazilka, could be referred to a commission whose decision should be binding on both states. Unfortunately, the Akali Dal has not accepted our suggestions regarding the transfer of areas to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh or of reference of the whole dispute to a commission.

I have spoken of the various demands of the Akali Dal and the government's stand on them in great details only to remove the impression which seems to persist among some people that government has not done enough to reach a settlement. May I ask in all seriousness: What more can any government do when disputes affect more than one state? The reality that has emerged is not the adequacy or otherwise of the terms of settlement offered by the government on the various Akali Dal demands, but the fact that the agitation is now in the hands of a few who have scant regard for the unity and integrity of the country or concern of the communal harmony or the continued economic progress of the Punjab.

Every 3 or 4 months a new morcha is started and Punjab is torn by senseless and tragic strife. Terrorists and antinational elements have gained the upper hand. Innocent people — Sikhs and Hindus — have been killed. There is arson, looting, and sabotage. Holy shrines have been turned into shelters for criminals and murderers. Their sanctity as places of worship has been undermined. A deliberate and systematic campaign is spreading bitterness and hatred between Hindus and Sikhs; and worst of all, the unity and integrity of our motherland is being openly challenged by a few who find refuge in holy shrines. In spite of this vitiated atmosphere, we kept talking to Akali leaders in the hope

of reaching an understanding. To our great disappointment, issues could not be clinched. Whenever a settlement seemed in sight, they came up with fresh demands or hardened their attitude on matters earlier agreed on. The leadership which started the agitation seems to have lost the will and perhaps the capacity to control its consequences.

What do we do in this new situation? I should like to clarify two points. First: In spite of all the disappointment experienced during the last 2 years of talks and negotiations with the representatives of the Akali Dal, I still appeal to them to accept the framework of the settlement government has outlined. If any misgivings or doubts on any issue remains, let us sit around the table and find a solution. In a democracy the right and only way to settle a problem is through discussion. Second: While the government is committed to solving all pending problems through negotiations, it should be obvious that no government can allow violence and terrorism any premium in settlement of issues. Those who indulge in such antisocial and antinational activities should make no mistake about this.

A special word to my Sikh brothers and sisters, whether they are in the Punjab or rest of India or outside India: India belongs equally to Hindus and Muslims, Christians and Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains, Parsis and others. All of them have equal rights and must get equal respect and protection. Sikhism itself was born as a faith to bring together the people of different religions. The life of Guru Nanek Dev Ji symbolized tolerance. The great gurus taught love and brotherhood. The moral of the Granth Saheb [Sikh holy book] is truth and kindliness. In the long and glorious saga of national independence, Punjab and the Sikhs made a shining contribution. Let not a miniscule minority among the Sikhs be allowed to trample underfoot the civilized norms for which Sikhism is well known and to tarnish the image of a brave and patriotic community. This is not the time for anger. Too much blood has been shed. Violence leads to counterviolence. Some Hindus may think that this is a heroic way to meet terrorism. There can be nothing more senseless and dangerous than such thoughts and action. We have to recognize our responsibility to the future — a future of which all can be proud. Tonight, I ask each one of you to work for this future. The people of Punjab on whom history has cast great burdens and responsibilities should think clearly of what lies ahead. Should you unwittingly become parties to the sinister designs of those who want to see India weak and sinking into chaos and instability?

I am deeply conscious of government's responsibility, but when feelings are high and so much is at stake, it does become the duty of every citizen to cooperate with government in putting down violence which mars the fair name of the land of five rivers [Punjab] and in courageously facing up the fanatics and terrorists. At this juncture another agitation will not bring settlement closer, but will give more strength to antinational elements. Even at this late hour, I appeal to the Akali leaders to call off their threatened agitation and accept the framework of the peaceful settlement which we have offered. Let us join together to heal wounds. The best memorial to those who have lost their lives is to restore normalcy and harmony in the Punjab which they loved and served. To all sections I appeal: Don't shed blood, shed hatred. Jai Hind [Hail India].

Reportage on Clashes, Government Moves in Punjab

Curfew Imposed Following Shooting

BK020613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Excerpts] In Punjab, the death toll in yesterday's exchange of fire between security forces and some people from within the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar has risen to 10. According to an official spokesman, six bodies were handed over by the Sikh Gurdwara Prabandhak [temples management] Committee authorities from within the complex. One body was found outside the complex, and three persons succumbed to their injuries in hospital. Over 2 dozen persons, including two Border Security Forces jawans [soldiers] were injured in the inicent. Curfew has been imposed in Amritsar from 2100 last night till 0500 tomorrow. A 24-hour curfew has also been clamped in Ludhiana and Patiala from 0600 today as a precautionary measure.

Four persons were killed and eight injured when some miscreants opened indiscriminate Sten gun fire on people sitting in a park near a religious place in Dhariwal in Gurdaspur District late last night. Some incidents have also been reported in Faridkot, Ludhiana, and Bhatinda.

Meanwhile, the Akali Dal high command is meeting in Amritsar today to review the situation arising out of yesterday's shooting incident.

Janata Party Leader Killed

BK021317 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] In Punjab, a senior Janata Party leader and former member of Legislative Assembly, Mr Om Prakash Bagga, was shot dead by some unidentified persons in Hoshiarpur this afternoon. Mr Bagga was attacked when he was on his way to a local school.

In another incident, a youth was injured when security forces opened fire on a stone-throwing mob near a local school in Amritsar. An unruly mob set on fire a Punjab Roadways bus at Verka near Amritsar.

A 16-hour curfew was imposed in the municipal areas of Moga as a precautionary measure. It came into effect from 1300 today and will continue till 0500 tomorrow morning.

Longowal Decries 'Indiscriminate Firing'

BK011659 Hong Kong AFP in English 1654 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Chandigarh, India, June 1 (AFP) — Authorities in Punjab clamped a 32-hour curfew on parts of the Sikhs' holy city of Amritsar tonight while an exchange of fire between security forces and Sikh militants in the Sikh Golden Temple left at least 10 dead by one count.

The UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) agency, reporting from Amritsar, said seven Sikhs inside the holiest Sikh shrine were

killed in the gun battle. Three civilians outside the temple precincts also died in the crossfire, although officials told the agency they could confirm only one death outside.

In Chandigarh, the federal territory that Punjab shares with neighbouring Haryana as its joint capital, state officials were unwilling to confirm the full death count. An AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent here was told that police could confirm the deaths inside the temple only if the bodies were handed over for post-mortem examination.

UNI said the firing, which began around noon and was continuing late tonight, prompted shopkeepers in the area to flee their businesses without even locking up. Observers in the Punjab called today's firing the worst exchange between troops and Sikh militants to have taken place in the troubled northern state. Authorities in Amritsar imposed a 32-hour curfew at 2100 hours (local) in most areas of Amritsar, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported. PTI said the curfew will have no relaxation and would cover almost all of Amritsar except limited areas in the civil lines.

An official of the Sikh Temples Management Committee quoted by the agency as saying that at least seven bodies were lying inside the temple complex and at least 15 people were injured. However, only two deaths were confirmed by officials.

In New Delhi, senior home and Cabinet Secretariat officials went into consultations and were in constant touch with authorities in Chandigarh and in Amritsar. The law and order adviser to the Punjab government, Surendra Nath, left for Chandigarh tonight after he had been summoned to New Delhi for consultations.

Pritam Singh Bhinder, Punjab's top police official, told reporters here that security forces in Amritsar came under heavy fire from all sides of the Golden Temple precincts when they objected to fresh militant fortifications around the shrine. He said tension mounted as security forces sealed all roads to the temple and retaliated in "self defence." A temple source in Amritsar told PTI that authorities had cut off water and electricity to them.

Meanwhile, Sikh Akali Dal Party Chief Harchand Singh Longowal contacted Home Minister Prakash Chandra Sethi in New Delhi over today's developments. He was also reported to have conveyed to President Zail Singh and Punjab Governor Bhairav Dutt Pande his protest over what he called "indiscriminate firing" by security forces. The party has called for an urgent meeting of its top leaders to meet in Amritsar Saturday. Reports also said that district authorities and the law machinery were on fresh alert following intelligence reports of likely assassination attempts on Hindu leaders and other political figures. The Akali Dal is to launch a fresh plan of active protest from Sunday.

Government Calls in Army

BK021548 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] The Army has been called in in aid of the civil authorities in Punjab. An official announcement made in New Delhi a short while ago said that Lieutenant General Ranjit Singh Dayal, chief of staff, Western Command, has taken over as adviser, security, to the governor of Punjab. The paramilitary forces deployed in Punjab will continue their work but under the overall command of the Army.

The announcement said the Punjab governor had asked the central government for the assistance of the Army to help in restoring law and order. The governor's request follows the escalation of violence by terrorists in Punjab. In order to ensure coordinated action against terrorist activities which in recent days have extended to the union territory of Chandigarh, the governor of Punjab has been appointed administrator of the union territory of Chandigarh also. This is a temporary arrangement for 2 months.

More Towns Under Curfew

BK021632 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Excerpts] In Punjab, curfew has been imposed in six more towns as a precautionary measure. These are Patiala, Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana, Khanna, Jagraon, and Moga. In Amritsar, a 32-hour curfew was imposed last night. In Ferozepore and Mansa, night curfew is already in force.

One of the persons killed in yesterday's incidents in Amritsar has been identified as a known terrorist wanted by the police for long. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that his body was not handed over to the police by the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] Committee authorities. It was reportedly cremated inside the Golden Temple complex. The death toll in last night's shooting incident at Dhariwal in Gurdaspur District has risen to five. Ten persons were injured in the incidents.

Permits Required for Foreigners

BK030313 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] The entire State of Punjab has bene declared a restricted area under the Foreigners Act with effect from today. Foreigners will now be required to take special permit from the Ministry of Home Affairs to enter the state. Those who are already in Punjab will have to obtain special permits from the state government immediately for remaining there.

There visiting tourists would have to move out of the state immediately. Pakistani nationals entering India with valid visas will be issued transit permits, which will require them to pass through the restricted areas in Punjab by the shortest route and within a minimum period to a place outside the restricted area. Immigration officers in charge of checkposts at Atari Road and Atari railway station have been authorized to issue the permits. In the case of Pakistani nationals in India outside the restricted area who wish to make their exit through these checkposts, the state government, the union territory administration, foreigner registration officers, and civil authorities have been authorized to grant transit permits.

Governor, Others Assess Situation

BK030854 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] The law and order situation in Punjab was reviewed at a high-level meeting in Chandigarh this morning. The meeting, presided over by the governor, Mr B.D. Pande, was attended, among others, by General R.S. Dayal, and the adviser to the governor, Mr Surinder Nath.

Meanwhile, two scooterists were shot dead by some armed miscreants near (Bhutu Mandi) in Bhatinda District this morning.

Rail Traffic Suspended

BK031226 Hong Kong AFP in English 1206 GMT 3 Jun 84

[By Prem Kumar]

[Text] Chandigarh, India, June 3 (AFP) — Sikh militants have gunned down three people in Punjab as troops moved in today to control violence which has left 29 dead in the past three days, official sources said. Also, the railway administration in Punjab tonight announced the immediate suspension of all train services throughout Punjab. The railways gave no reason for the step and did not indicate the duration of the suspension.

Last night's decision by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to send Army units into the troubled state puts the total strength of security forces in Punjab, population 16.67 million, near 100,000, official sources said. They said that more than one Army division, numbering about 15,000, including artillery and other auxiliary units, had been deployed in various sensitive areas of western Punjab, including the Sikh holy city of Amritsar.

More units were standing by in other cantonments spread over Punjab and neighbouring Haryana and Rajasthan states. There were more than 80,000 paramilitary forces (Border Security Force and Central Reserve Police Force) and regular police personnel already in position, the sources said.

In the most recent reported violence, officials said assassins dragged a passenger from a bus, shot him then, and threw him in a canal near Gholia Khurd village, Faridkot District last night, the sources said.

In two other separate incidents last night, militants shot dead one person in Lakhiwal village, Faridkot, and another at Thanewal, Gurdaspur District. In keeping with official practice, the religion of the victims was not revealed, but they were believed to be Hindus.

The toll included three bodies found by police today near the back of a temple in Patiala District and three other persons shot dead in Gurdaspur District last night. Police identified the bodies as Kulwinder Singh, Manjit Singh, and Soki, all Sikhs. Police said Kulwinder Singh was a known extremist wanted in connection with several criminal cases.

Official sources said Army units had taken over security around the Sikh Golden Temple complex in Amritsar hours after the government decision came last night to put the troubled state under military control. The complex has been the main hideout of hundreds of well armed Sikh Akali extremists since the beginning two years ago of a violent campaign by the Akalis for more political and religious autonomy.

Opposition politicians today welcomed the decision to use the Army, although the Sikh Akali Dal leaders denounced it.

"It is high time that the government made it clear, once and for all, that it was not going to surrender to terrorist or coercive threats," said the secretary of the leading opposition party in Parliament, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Krishan Lal Sharma.

Akali Dal party Chairman Sant Harchand Singh Longowal described the move as a "terrible blow to the peaceful and democratic agitation of the Akali Dal." He said the Akali Dal was fighting against injustice and discrimination and "it will continue to do so till the end."

This is the third time in slightly more than one year the Indian Army has been called to assist a state administration in various parts of the country. The Army brought temporary peace to Assam after some 5,000 immigrant settlers, mainly Bengali, were killed by indigenous Assamese in March last year, while last month troops stepped in after Hindu-Moslem rioting left about 260 dead in Bombay and nearby towns. With the Army's deployment, curfew was lifted in the various areas where they had been clamped on Friday during a sudden eruption of violence. The government last night also announced a restriction on foreigners' movement inside the state without official permits.

Other Traffic Banned

BK031552 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Here is a flash: In Punjab, the movement of all vehicles and trains have been banned throughout the state for 36 hours from 2100 today. The ban covers all motorized vehicles and animal-driven transports and bicycles. An official spokesman told the All-India Radio Chandigarh correspondent that curfew has also been clamped for this duration in all the major towns and cities.

Government Imposes News Blackout

BK031330 Hong Kong AFP in English 1324 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Chandigarh, India, June 3 (AFP) — The government today announced a blanket ban on reporting and transmission of all news relating to the Sikh autonomy campaign in the northern state of Punjab.

The government order, announced here this evening, prohibited reporting, transmission, printing, and publication of any matter relating to the campaign as well as the operations of security forces in the state.

Blackout Effective 2 Months

BK031621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Excerpts] In Punjab, the law and order situation was reviewed at a high-level meeting in Chandigarh this morning. It was presided over by the governor, Mr B.D. Pande, and was attended amongst others by Lieutenant General R.S. Dayal, and adviser to the governor, Mr Surinder Nath. A 36-hour curfew has been clamped in the union territory of Chandigarh from 2100 tonight. Similar curfew was clamped in the whole of Ropar District and all the towns of Patiala District. All towns in Amritsar District have also come under curfew.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi that movement of all trains in the Ferozepor division, which includes Punjab and Jammu regions, has been suspended with immediate effect. The trains which steamed off will, however, be allowed to reach their destinations. Reports from Jammu say the movement of all outgoing trains has been suspended. An official spokesman told our Jammu correspondent that the suspension will continue untill further instructions. The Himachal Pradesh government has rescheduled its bus services to Chandigarh to ensure that they reach and leave Chandigarh before 2100 at night.

The security forces captured four terrorists in Faridkot District last night. The inspector general of police, Mr P.S. Bhinder, told newsmen in Chandigarh that a large quantity of arms and ammunition has been recovered from them which included some sophisticated weapons. Lieutenant General R.S. Dayal, who was present at the briefing, said that the Army will help paramilitary forces and police in restoring peace in the state. In reply to a question, he said the Army will be deployed wherever the situation requires.

Reporting, transmission, and dissemination of any matter relating to the current agitation, operation of security forces, or any other matter likely to create feelings of disharmony, enmity, hatred or ill will between different communities have been prohibited in the state with immediate effect. The order will remain in force in Punjab for 2 months.

Party Leaders Welcome Restrictions

BK031558 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] The decision to call out the Army in Punjab to assist the administration in checking terrorism and violence has been welcomed by leaders of various political parties. The Janata party leader, Mr Morarji Desai, said in New York today that the decision will not add to the tension. He said the Army's help should have been sought earlier.

A senior Congress-I leader and former Punjab finance minister, Dr Kewal Krishan, said that the step would curb the wave of violence in which several lives have been lost. Welcoming the decision, the Bharatiya Janata Party appealed to the Akali leaders to abandon their policy of confrontation and the non-cooperation movement. A statement issued by the party secretary, Mr Kishan Lal Sharma, urged them to sort out all pending disputes through peaceful negotiations. The Politburo of the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] has appealed to the Akali Dal to respond to the prime minister's call for resumption of talks with the center to solve the Punjab tangle. It noted that the Akali Dal's failure to denounce violent activities of the extremists and the use of Sikh temples for sheltering criminals made them lose the goodwill and support of all democratic sections of the people. The Punjab unit of the CPI welcomed Mrs Gandhi's appeal to the Akalis and said it is a positive step. At its meeting in Chandigarh, it urged the Akali Dal to call off the agitation, keeping in view the situation in the state.

The acting president of the Shiromani Akali Dal, Talwandi group, Mr Randhir Singh Cheema, has, however, expressed his unhappiness over the decision to call out the Army.

The Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, has expressed the hope that in view of the initiative taken by Mrs Gandhi the Punjab problem will be solved through negotiations. He appealed to the people to maintain communal amity and national unity. He was addressing a gathering at Jammu airport today.

Sikh Leader: War Declared

BK040057 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Mark Tully report in "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The continuing violence in the Indian state of Punjab between Sikhs and Hindus has led to a further tightening of security by the Indian Army. News consorship has now been imposed, railway traffic has been halted, and the curfew has been extended over the entire state. Troops have surrounded the Golden Temple in Amritsar, where armed Sikh militants have set up a command post. Our correspondent Mark Tully sent this dispatch from Amritsar:

Within less than 24 hours of the Army taking over responsibility for security, the Punjab Government announced that news about Army operations and the Sikh agitation for religious and political demands is banned for 2 months. Railway officials in Amritsar said they have been ordered not to allow any trains to start without orders from Delhi. Buses from Amritsar to other states have been stopped too. There is a ban on foreigners entering Punjab without a permit. A 36-hour curfew has now been imposed on the entire Punjab state, including the capital, Chandigarh, which Punjab shares with the neighboring state of Haryana. Lieutenant General Ranjit Singh Dayal, who has taken over as security adviser to the Punjab governor, has said that no time schedule can be fixed for tackling a problem of the type faced in the Punjab. He also said the Army would be deployed wherever and whenever it is felt necessary. Precise details of the deployment are being worked out, but Gen Dayal said that these would remain secret.

The leader of the Sikh religious party, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has described the involvement of the Army as an uncalled-for provocation. Mrs Gandhi's description of the negotiation the government had held with his party was a distortion

of fact. The Akali leader insisted that his party would continue its agitation.

The Sikh extremist leader, Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, who has sought refuge in the Golden Temple, said that the government had now declared war on the Sikhs.

7 Killed in Amritsar

BK040304 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] In Amritsar District, seven persons were killed and four injured in three incidents of terrorism last evening. While three persons, including two women, were gunned down in village (Vehobal), three were killed and four injured at (Cheheta). One was killed in the Sultan Bind area of Amritsar city.

In Faridkot District, police captured one terrorist near Moga yesterday. Another terrorist managed to escape. A country-made pistol and some ammunition have been recovered from the arrested person. He was wanted by the police in connection with a number of dacoities [robberies] and murders.

Haryana, Rajasthan Seal Borders

BK040314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Excerpt] The Governments of Haryana and Rajasthan have sealed their borders with Punjab and Chandigarh. Haryana Government offices located in Chandigarh and Panchkula have been closed for today in view of the curfew in Chandigarh. The Jammu and Kashmir Road Transport Corporation has suspended its bus services to Punjab for 36 hours. According to a Central Railway spokesman, all the trains bound for and across Punjab are being terminated or regulated at Delhi, Ambala, or Saharanpur, depending on the route.

More leaders have welcomed the decision for calling in the Army in Punjab. The Haryana chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, has said that the indiscriminate killings by extremists have compelled the center to take the step to help the civil authorities. He urged the Akali Dal leaders to respond to Mrs Gandhi's appeal and suspend the agitation.

Offices, Schools Ordered Closed

BK040910 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] The Punjab Government has ordered the closure today of all state government and other offices as well as educational institutions located in Chandigarh and at all those places where curfew has been imposed. Haryana Government offices located in Chandigarh and Panchkula have also been closed in view of the curfew.

The Governments of Haryana and Rajasthan have sealed their borders with Punjab and Chandigarh.

The CPI general secretary, Mr Rajeshwara Rao, today said that in view of the prime minister's latest appeal, the Akali leadership should return to the negotiating table to find an amicable solution to the remaining issues on Punjab. He urged the Akalis to call off their agitation, as it will only help the extremists to further nefarious aims.

Mr Rao, who was briefing newsmen in New Delhi about the 3-day deliberations of the party, urged the prime minister to call an all-party meeting and implement the consensus even if the Akali Dal does not join it.

Curfews Extended; Killings Noted

BK030327 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] In Punjab, curfew in Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Patiala, and Ludhiana has been further extended till tomorrow morning. Curfew has also been clamped in Jullundur since last evening.

In all, eight persons were killed and seven injured by some miscreants yesterday in Gurdaspur, Faridkot, Ferozepore, and Jullundur Districts. In Patiala, some persons, including the superintendent of police, were injured when two groups of people indulged in exchange of brickbats. The police used teargas to disengage them.

More Fighting Near Golden Temple

BK041232 Hong Kong AFP in English 1209 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Chandigarh, India, June 4 (AFP) — Heavy fighting was reported around the Sikh Golden Temple in Amritsar today, hours after Indian troops occupied strategic positions around the complex, well informed sources here said. Sources also said firing was going on near Sikh temples in Patiala District, although no estimates of casualties in either place were available.

The Golden Temple in Amritsar, holiest of Sikh shrines, is said to be a hideout for hundreds of well-armed Sikh militants, followers of Akali leader Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale.

Sikhs Fire From Temple

BK041448 Hong Kong AFP in English 1441 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] New Delhi, June 4 (AFP) — Security forces fought a nearly five-hour gun battle with Sikh militants firing from inside the Golden Temple in Amritsar, Punjab, today, a federal government spokesman told reporters here. He said one member of the para-military Border Security Forces (BSF) was wounded seriously in the exchange. Sikh militant casualties were unknown.

The exchange was started by Sikh gunmen firing from inside the temple, he said. They also used hand grenades and bombs, he added. The spokesman denied that police had entered the Golden Temple and arrested Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, the miltant Sikh leader.

Foreign Office Scores 'Intemperate' Premadasa Speech

BK011252 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] New Delhi has deplored the recent speech of the Sri Lanka prime minister, Mr Premadasa, in which he made a number of unwarranted accuasations against India. The matter is being brought to the notice of the Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene. A Foreign Office spokesman said in a statement in New Delhi that never since the independence has India and the prime minister personally been so vehemently attacked as Mr Premadasa did in a speech in Parliament last Thursday. We will only deplore the use of such intemperate language. The spokesman asserted that the charges and accusations hurled at India are totally without basis.

Gandhi Sends Jayewardene Message

BK040332 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, has sent a special message to the Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene. It was handed over by the Indian high commissioner, Mr Chatwal, when he called on the president in Colombo yesterday.

Tamil Nadu Minister Denies Jayewardene Charge

BK030328 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] The Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran, denied the allegation by the Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene, that the Tamil Nadu Government is harboring Tamil extremists from Sri Lanka. Speaking to newsmen at Coimbatore, Mr Ramachandran said the state government is not giving any kind of arms training to the displaced Tamilians.

Rao: West Stalling on Indian Ocean Security Meeting

BK040439 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, has called upon the littoral countries in the Indian Ocean region to react with appropriate seriousness to the great-power military presence in the region. In an interview in New Delhi to the INTER PRESS SERVICE, he said progress toward the convening of a conference on the Indian Ocean has been stalled by the Western countries. They are trying to justify their military presence there.

Mr Rao reiterated India's plea for an early end to the Iran-Iraq war. He said failure to achieve this will strengthen the foothold of the major powers in the region.

Foreign Minister Departs on Visit to Indonesia

BK030925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, left New Delhi this morning for Jakarta on a 5-day visit. During his stay in Indonesia, he will address a meeting of Indian envoys to Southeast Asian countries. He will also hold talks with the Indonesian leaders on matters of mutual interest. The Kampuchean problem, Iran-Iraq conflict, and the role of nonaligned nations in promoting peace are expected to come up during the discussions. He will also meet President Suharto.

Industry Minister Tiwari on Talks in Libya, Kenya

BK030929 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] India and Libya have agreed to set up a technical committee to resolve problems affecting the execution of various projects in that country. The committee will comprise of experts from the two countries and will meet within the next 6 months. The industry minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, who recently visited Libya and Kenya, said this at a news conference in New Delhi today. He said 25 Indian contracts worth over 990 crore rupees are under operation in Libya at present. The two countries, he said, have agreed to enhance cooperation in the field of electricity.

Mr Tiwari said that during his talks with Kenyan leaders, it was agreed to promote joint ventures. He said India is giving three credits amounting to 20 crore rupees to Kenya for setting up small-scale industries and import of textile machinery. A Hindustan Machine Tools office has been opened in Kenya to cater to the needs of the entire East African region, he said.

Space Research Cooperation With USSR To Increase

BK021419 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] India and the Soviet Union are to increase cooperation in the field of gamma-ray astronomy; this is in view of India's growing sophistication in space research. Both the countries are cooperating in this kind of research since 1976, and much work has been done at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay. The institute's balloon facilities at Hyderabad offer ideal conditions for the observation of gamma particles coming from space. Now the emphasis will be shifted from balloon observations to satellite observations. The Soviet scientists have developed a gamma-ray telescope to study direction of gamma rays and measure their energies and properties. India has provided the guidance system for the telescope.

Ramanna: Country Self-Sufficient in Uranium

BK040930 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] The chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Dr Raja Ramanna, said India has become self-sufficient in uranium and heavy water. Laying the foundation stone for the laboratory of

the atomic mineral division at (Nagarahalli) near Bangalore in Karnataka, he stressed the need to set up exploration of atomic minerals, particularly uranium. He said import of uranium is not possible under the present international regulation. Keeping in view the country's power needs and the nonuranium sources, the target of 10,000 MW of nuclear power have been worked out for the end of the century.

Dr Ramanna said nuclear power now contributes 3 percent of the total electrical capacity in the country. Generation would reach 10 percent with the proposed setting up of 20 nuclear power reactors in different parts of the country.

Briefs

Crude Oil Production — Seventy-three percent of the country's requirement of petroleum products is now being met from indigenous production. Talking to newsmen in Simla today, the general manager of the Indian Oil Corporation, Mr Oberoi, said during 1983-84, about 26 million tons of crude oil was produced in the country. Bombay High alone accounted for 17 million tons. Mr Oberoi disclosed that the target for the current year is set at 29 million tons. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Jun 84 BK]

Memorandum Signed With Kenya — India and Kenya have signed a memorandum of understanding envisaging a speedy implementation of the projects in hand. The two countries have also agreed to consider joint projects in several industrial areas, particularly in the small-scale sectors. The memorandum was signed by Industry [Minister] N. D. Tiwari and his Kenyan counterpart, Andrew Omanga, in Nairobi on 31 May. According to the agreement, cement, textiles, machinery, bicycles, railways, and energy will be the new areas for further cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0846 GMT 1 Jun 84 BK]

Yaqub Khan Returns, Discusses Visit to U.S.

BK030657 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that he and his counterpart in Washington are satisfied with the deliberations of the U.S.-Pakistan joint commission, and both U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and he himself were very encouraged by the good progress that had been made in laying a strong foundation for increasing cooperation in the fields of commerce, education and culture, and science and technology. He was talking to newsmen on his return to Islamabad this morning from Washington where he attended the meeting of the commission on 25 May.

He said they discussed at the meeting (?general) activities in these different sectors. However, coordination between the U.S.-Pakistani agencies and training of Pakistani students and scientists from these agencies and (?colleges) in the U.S. (?universities) and scientific institutions [words indistinct] were specifically discussed.

He said besides attending the meeting of the commission, he exchanged views with the U.S. senior administrative officials and congressmen. Among those were included Secretary of State George Shultz, Defense Secretary Weinberger, and National Security Adviser McFarlane.

Praises UN Resolution

BK031103 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said Pakistan remains committed to help bring about an end to the unfortunate fratricidal Iran-Iraq conflict and to restore peace to an area in whose stability Pakistan had a heavy stake. Talking to newsmen on arrival this morning at the Islamabad airport after his visit to the United States, he expressed satisfaction that Pakistan's efforts, along with those of other interested parties at the UN Security Council, succeeded in securing the adoption of a resolution which called for exercising restraint and moderation. The foreign minister added the resolution also calls for concerted efforts to prevent the expansion of the war and the consequent danger of intervention by any outside power. The most immediate objective, he said, was to prevent the widening of the conflict, and they are hopeful that the resolution will have the desired effect.

Security Alerted for Possible Hijack Attempt

BK041537 Hong Kong AFP in English 1530 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] Karachi, June 4 (AFP) — A strict security alert has been ordered for all departing flights at Karachi and other Pakistani airports following warnings received by Pakistan International Airline (PIA) and several other airlines operating in the Pakistan-Gulf-Middle Eastern region about the imminent danger of a hijacking, airline sources said here today. PIA received a telex message last week about an impending hijacking and similar messages were received by a number of foreign airlines operating on routes covering Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Iraq, Libya, Lebanon, and the United Arab Emirates.

According to these messages, a group of hijackers was expected to strike any moment on international flights operating on these routes. The source of these telex messages was not disclosed to the press but it was believed to be Interpol.

The airlines have been advised to instruct their counter staff to check all passengers' baggage carefully, as the hijackers would try to load a bag with explosive time fuses on the target aircraft. The nationality of the would-be hijackers was not disclosed.

Cultural Cooperation Protocol Signed With China

BK031055 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Pakistan and China signed a protocol in Islamabad today for cooperation in the fields of culture, arts, sports, education, and information and broadcasting during the years 1984 and 1985. The protocol provides for the exchanges in the fields of (?craft), paintings, folk arts, films, and exchange visits of museum experts and sport teams. In the field of education, both the countries would offer scholarships to each other in different fields of studies. Both sides will exchange visits of professors, scholars, and teachers. It also provides for exchange visits of press delegations and Muslim scholars delegation.

RCD Official Details Steps To Revive Organization

GF021259 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 24 May 84 p 1

[Excerpt] High officials of Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey will meet in early July this year to step up the activities of Regional Co-operation for Development [RCD] to give it a new life and make co-operation between the three Muslim countries meaningful in various fields. This was stated by Mr Behcet Turemen, secretary-general of RCD, on his arrival here on a fortnight visit to Pakistan.

Talking to newsmen at Islamabad Airport, he said the officials meeting will be followed by a ministerial-level meeting between the three countries. The venues of these meetings would be decided later.

The secretary-general who belongs to Turkey said that he had already consulted the Governments of Turkey and Iran and would now hold talks with Pakistan officials to reactivate and enrich the cooperation among them in the RCD framework.

Mr Turemen said: "We are going to create an atmosphere for more fruitful and productive cooperation for our rapid development. We will push certain ideas for making the RCD more beneficial to its member countries."

In reply to a question, he said it would take two to three months to undertake joint projects by RCD in trade, industry and other economic fields.

Reaction to UN Security Council Resolution on Gulf

Foreign Ministry Statement

LD021339 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 June 84

[Statement issued by the Foreign Ministry "in connection with the recent UN Security Council resolution"]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Since the start of the Iraqi aggression against the Islamic Republic, every time the aggression escalated, taking on a new dimension in the violation of international law and human principles, the UN Security Council, contrary to its duty under the UN Charter to safeguard peace and international security, has dealt irreparable blows to not only world peace and security, but also the world community's faith in the UN's effectiveness and role in keeping peace. This is done either through its silence or by means of issuing resolutions that have so far served no purpose but to encourage Iraq to escalate its aggression.

The recent resolution issued by the Council with regard to the security of the Persian Gulf waterways, which in fact results in the total insecurity of the waterways, is yet another dark page added to the misdeeds in the Council's dossier. Noting the following points would clarify the resolution's nature and motivations:

A. Attacks on merchant vessels, particularly oil tankers, in the Persian Gulf, in an attempt to internationalize the war, were begun months ago by the Iraqi regime. These attacks included not only oil tankers carrying the Islamic Republic's oil, but also covered other oil tankers in international waters carrying oil belonging to other Persian Gulf littoral states.

B. The Islamic Republic of Iran warned the world community a long time ago about the consequences of such adventurism by the Iraqi regime. In this connection, during a meeting held on 11 Favardin of the current year [31 March 1984] at the Foreign Ministry, the Islamic Republic's foreign minister reported the Iraqi attacks on oil tankers not belonging to the Islamic Republic of Iran in international waters to foreign diplomatic representatives as well as representatives of the international community in Iran. At that time he reminded them of the dangers and consequences of such acts by Iraq. Moreover, in a note dated 24 Ordibehesht [14 May 1984] addressed to the UN secretary general, he expressed his concern about Iraq's attacks on oil tankers and reminded the United Nations of its duty to prevent the continuation of such aggressions.

C. While the Security Council has been unable to thwart Iraqi aggressions, as is its duty, Iraq continued to step up its attacks on oil tankers. According to a verbal statement by Iraq in this connection, during a period of 3 months over 40 vessels and oil tankers have been the target of attacks by that regime. Considering the above facts, the question is raised: What is the reason and pretext for the Security Council to remain indifferent in the face of Iraqi attacks in the Persian Gulf and international waters?

The question, which shall undoubtedly remain forever unanswered by the Council and those who approved the resolution, would more than ever before confirm the legitimacy of the Islamic Republic of Iran's stand regarding the Security Council. It would again prove that the Council is nothing but a vacillating lever controlled by the superpowers and that it is totally incompetent in securing international peace and order, as well as the functions stipulated in the UN Charter.

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran states its position on the resolution as follows:

1. The security of the Persian Gulf if absolutely indivisible: Partial security of the waterways is under no circumstances imaginable or acceptable, and it shall never be so.

2. The general and comprehensive security of the Persian Gulf waterways is the duty of the Persian Gulf littoral states, especially the Islamic Republic of Iran, alone; any type of intervention by foreign forces in the affairs of the region is rejected and shall be countered by decisive action by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

3. Preventing the export of the Islamic Republic of Iran's oil through the Persian Gulf would lead to the disruption of all exports of oil from the Persian Gulf. Consequently, any agreement resulting in such an outcome is absolutely rejected.

4. Any loan or action involving assistance to Iraq towards continuing that regime's aggressive war would shift the responsibility for the consequences of the war to the planner and perpetrator. By giving recognition to a need to safeguard partial security in the Persian Gulf waterways, in its recent resolution the Security Council has issued a justification for the continuation of Iraq's attacks on oil tankers. Consequently, the Security Council bears direct and unquestionable responsibility with regard to the aggravation of crisis in the Persian Gulf, which would ultimately endanger the stability of the world economy.

5. The approval of the resolution despite the private and open views expressed by most countries with regard to its partiality and unbalanced nature — as well as the failure to refer to the Persian Gulf in its true name in the resolution, contrary to all the existing historical and international evidence — is clear evidence of the bitter fact that the influence of petrodollars in the Security Council is so great that the Security Council sacrifices the stability of the world economy for the wishes of one or two reactionary regimes that, through their financial aid to Iraq, encouraged the Iraqi regime to start and continue the war.

6. In addition to a great many other shortcomings, particularly the refusal to condemn Iraq as the initiator and continuer of attacks on oil tankers, the Security Council resolution is diametrically opposed to the principles stipulated in the UN Charter. Therefore, it is both condemned and invalid.

7. Starting and continuing attacks on oil tankers as an essential step toward internationalizing the war are therefore considered a call on foreign forces to intervene in the affairs of the region. Consequently, they deserve international punishments. Any plan

or action lacking such a punishment is unacceptable. The Security Council resolution is invalid for this reason as well.

8. The Iraqi regime, have repeatedly violated international law, must be condemned and punished, in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and international law. Unfortunately, however, the Security Council, having adopted unprincipled methods, has helped to prepare the ground to open new dimensions for aggression. Therefore, it bears direct responsibility in this regard. The Security Council's performance in connection with Iraq's starting of the war, as well as its missile attacks on the populated areas and civilian parts and including the use of chemical weapons and dozens of other cases that were in violation of international law, give this responsibility profound dimensions.

[signed] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Ministry Spokesman: Move Unbalanced

LD031734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Following the attack by Iraqi planes on a Turkish tanker in the Persian Gulf, the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of our country said: As mentioned in the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday, the Security Council, which should have formulated a resolution to eliminate tension in the region and put a stop to attacks on tankers, passed a unilateral and unbalanced resolution that gave the Iraqi regime the necessary permission to flare new fires and start new adventures.

It was expected that agreeing with a plan drawn up by a number of reactionary countries, aiming at providing support for the Iraqi regime rather than resolving the problem, could ease the existing tension in the Persian Gulf. By now, they should have grasped the apt views of the Islamic Republic of Iran and understood that the Iraqi regime is trying to internationalize the war and expand the tension all over the region in order to save itself. The way to confront such a dangerous plot is not by bribing Iraq but by uprooting the cause of the tension in the region — Saddam.

The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs concluded: The Islamic Republic of Iran will not allow the adventurist actions of Iraq to result in a disruption of Iran's oil export and will not tolerate such insecurity in the Persian Gulf.

Velayati: Resolution Contradictory

LD031518 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 3 Jun 84

[TEXT] Tehran June 3 IRNA — If the United Nations is really bound to its claim of eliminating tension in the world, it must condemn the real cause of tension and pressure the countries which are supporting this government (Iraq) to discontinue their aid, said Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in an interview here today.

The Iranian foreign minister added that some of the Persian Gulf states which, from the very beginning of the imposed war, have been extending huge aids to the Ba'thist regime of Iraq in various military, economic, logistical, and political fields, have recently resorted to acts whereby they could justify the Iraqi regime's irrational operations in the Persian Gulf and to impose political pressures upon the Islamic Republic at the same time. This new Iraqi adventurism, he said, stemmed from the fact that the Baghdad regime was incapable of direct confrontation with the Islamic combatants of iran. It was also an open violation of international conventions, Velayati further said.

The foreign minister said the recent so-called resolution of the Security Council was full of contradiction, ambiguity, and weak points, which could not solve any of the problems of the big powers supporting Saddam as well as of the reactionaries of the region, because, he said, no attempt has been made to discover the cause of the tension and hostilities and to put down in his place the person who has initiated this turmoil.

A part of the resolution calls on the Persian Gulf states to respect the right of free navigation, he said, adding that "of course this is what we also believe." But the next paragraph has played down this very issue, mentioning the "littoral states that are not party to the hostilities." Velayati posed the question whether those countries which were aiding Iraq through different means were not party to the hostilities against the Islamic Republic.

He said another part of the resolution has specified between war and non-war zones, which is a one-sided classification by Iraq and not acceptable to Iran. "We believe that the security of the Persian Gulf, through which a considerable portion of the industrial world's oil is passing, cannot be divided with the interests of certain reactionary states in the Persian Gulf. We demand a concrete security for the oil tankers in the Persian Gulf." Velayati concluded by saying that the problem of the Persian Gulf will remain as long as an aggressor called Iraq which is not adhering to international law is in power.

Prime Minister Derides Resolution

LD021740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Following the recent resolution passed by the UN Security Council in connection with the security of the Persian Gulf waterways, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, in an interview given to our correspondent this afternoon, commented on the view of the Security Council, saying: We did not expect anything but this from the Security Council, a council ruled over by the law of the jungle where the powerful enjoy the right of veto. But, as far as we are concerned we will not take orders from anybody in our affairs, and we are determined to punish the aggressor, just as we have dealt crushing blows up to now. The prime minister said: Our points of view in connection with the Persian Gulf are clear. The arrival of Stinger missiles in the arena does not change our decision. Such missiles and equipment can frighten nations which do not believe in and are not supported by God.

Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi added: This resolution demonstrates that the superpowers are frightened by Iran's power, and it shows that they have not rightly realized the Islamic Revolution and the determination of our great nation. If our people were to be

frightened by the uproar, they would have been frightened by Carter's message to the shah on 17 Shahrivar [8 Sep 1978]. Our people will never forget that the leader of one of these five countries trampled upon the bodies of our martyrs and came to meet the shah, hoping in vain to keep that scarecrow in power in the region. Today, we would like to tell all these countries that their efforts are all in vain. Saddam is on the way out.

Finally, the prime minister added: Today, the reason for the chaos in the region is all the efforts made to keep Saddam in power, be it the petrodollars given to Saddam by Arab shaykhs, the weapons put at Saddam's disposal by the East and the West, or the unashamed support given to Saddam like that of Reagan. This tumor should be removed by a surgical operation and we are determined to do it.

Majlis Speaker Rejects Measure

LD011416 Tehran IRNA in English 1406 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Tehran, June 1, IRNA — If the United Nations' Security Council decides to condemn the Islamic Republic for alleged attacks on ships in the Persian Gulf it would have no value, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said today.

"They (Persian Gulf states) have sent six of their chiefs to the Security Council to sit next to world arrogant infidels and beg (the Council) to condemn Iran. Well, let them condemn Iran.

"What value do such condemnations (by the Security Council) have? — the Security Council which compromised so much on the use of chemical weapons (by Iraq), the Security Council which had shut up in the beginning of the imposed war...the Security Council which was so silent on the (Iraqi) attacks against our defenceless cities...."

Imam Khomeyni's representative in the Supreme Defence Council told this week's massive Friday prayers gathering at Tehran University that "the conspiracy is clear. The conspiracy is for them to dry up our (oil) income and then force us to surrender and impose on us a peace to their own liking."

"I stress for the umpteenth time that we are not willing (to see a catastrophe in the Persian Gulf)...and we will strongly refrain from it, but not to the point of losing the honour and spirit of our revolution.

"As far as it is possible we will prevent such a catastrophe for humanity from happening by diplomacy and appropriate talks and meetings," Rafsanjani said. He added that the right way to bring peace and security to the region was to free Iraq from the Ba'thists, in particular Saddam Husayn. "The fundamental and correct way to survive is to reach out and get rid of the *taghut* (arrogant) of Iraq, the Iraqi Aflaqis (followers of Michael Aflaq, the Ba'thist theoretician), especially Saddam. Then you will see how security and peace will prevail in the region."

He said it appeared the United States "has come to its senses a bit and learned a lesson from Lebanon." But there were still some instigating statements from that country. "I hope these are only words and they will not stain themselves in these issues."

On the second term of the Majlis, the temporary [as received] Majlis speaker said there were numerous signs indicating that the second term of the Majlis would be stronger and more active then the first. One important reason was that more than 100 Majlis deputies had retained their seats and could transfer their experiences to the new deputies.

Rafsanjani said the credentials of 71 deputies had so far been ratified without any objections. He expressed hope the Majlis could solve issues facing the poor such as inflation, housing, and agricultural reform with the cooperation of the Council of Guardians.

Resolution Shows Council's 'Cowardice'

LD031742 Tehran IRNA in English 1638 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA — Speaking on the unjust vote of the Security Council concerning shipping in the Persian Gulf, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said in the world today injustice had become a common matter.

Speaking to a group of technical experts, Rafsanjani said the unjust vote of the Security Council reflects the cowardice of the organisation and its attachment to the superpowers. The superpowers realise that Iran had the potential to achieve real independence, and they were therefore trying to undermine the Islamic Republic and divert other countries from following the same path, the speaker added.

Rafsanjani also said in the past, foreign specialists were needed to utilise the Iranian industry, but if Iran wanted to create a powerful and revolutionary society it should create a work force of specialists who are also sincere.

The minister for energy, Hasan Ghafuri-Fard, who was also present in the meeting, spoke about the training center that his ministry had established after the revolution.

He said that after the revolution the country faced a shortage of specialists because of the expulsion of foreign technicians, but the training center had managed to fill the shortage and train Iranian specialists.

Move Encourages Iraqi Aggression

LD031509 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1057 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] With the resolution passed by the UN Security Council in connection with the attacks on oil tankers in the Persian Gulf, sponsored by the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council, the crisis in this region again assumes new proportions in the world political news arena. While such a stance on the part of the Security Council might to some extent have been expected, the majority of public opinion could never have imagined that the Security Council would have stooped so low.

Of course, in the view of the Muslim people of Iran and the Islamic Republic of Iran's authorities — as has been said many times — the makeup and administrative structure of the Security Council is unjust and serves a few world powers. For this reason, this organization in its present form is not only powerless to solve international disputes, but also powerless to preserve security worldwide.

One of the five ruling powers in this Council has always played a fundamental role in the planning and subsequent prolongation of international unrest. The right of veto for the five dominant world powers, in their view, justifies any crime. America's crimes in many parts of the world, including Lebanon, Grenada, El Salvador, and elsewhere, in no way shock this so-called council for the preservation of security. Thus, the deprived masses of the world must never expect to secure their rights from such assemblies.

A most telling example of this contention is the reaction of the Security Council throughout the imposed war toward the Islamic Republic of Iran. At the outbreak of the imposed war, which was started by the criminal regime of Iraq with the occupation of a vast area of Iran's Islamic homeland, the Islamic Republic warned the international bodies about this naked aggression many times and asked them to condemn the aggressor, thus partially fulfilling their responsibilities; if they could do nothing at a practical level, they should at least not encourage the aggressor. This did not happen, however, and from time to time, at the request of one of the countries dependent on the dominant powers of the Security Council, an ambivalent resolution generally condemning Iran would be passed, thus expressing support openly for the aggressor. Such reaction and posturing by the Security Council has occurred on numerous occasions over the past 45 months, although events and developments over the past year, and the Security Council's reaction to several important events, such as Iraq's diabolical attack on residential districts in Iran, the attacks on oil wells in the Persian Gulf, the use of chemical bombs, and the recent attacks on oil tankers and the disruption of shipping in the region, reveal the hand of this so-called world assembly for solving international disputes.

The attacks on oil wells in the Persian Gulf by the ruling regime of Baghdad, and the endangering of the ecology of the region, have produced no reaction from the Security Council in spite of all the efforts made by Iran. The Persian Gulf then was the same Persian Gulf it is now, and the likelihood existed at that time that continued attacks by Iraq on oil wells would put shipping in the area at risk. Iraq's extensive use of chemical bombs, which so outraged public opinion, was treated with apathy by the Security Council, which merely passed a resolution condemning the use of chemical weapons, without mentioning those using them.

As regards the bombardment and missile attacks on residential areas in our Islamic homeland, although a United Nations delegation witnessed the Iraqi regime's crimes in Iran at first hand, [word indistinct] by the Security Council, during Security Council debates and investigation of the Gulf issue, the Iraqi regime claimed that so far they had attacked 150 ships and that in the future they would continue such attacks.

The Security Council resolution certainly brings no honor or victory to the Security Council and governments which sponsored it, as regional reaction wrongly imagines. The resolution clearly encourages Iraq to continue aggression and exacerbate the crisis. As for the governments sponsoring the resolution, don't they wish to continue living in the region? Or, given their extremely weak defense positions and security, don't they sense the need for security? The international community will assuredly sit in judgment on this resolution. When it does, its judgment will serve as the clear criterion for the attainment of the rights of the Muslim people of Iran and other countries.

Thus, according to most political elements and world propaganda organizations, the hegemonist powers of the East and West have embarked on a coordinated course of opposition to the Islamic Revolution, a clear example of this being discernible in the present crisis in the Persian Gulf. Western imperialism and international communism regard the existence of Saddam's regime as essential for the maintenance of the present political balance in the region and the balance of forces. They have therefore arrived at a mutual understanding, but the Muslim people of Iran, as they have stated many times and in many ways, have never departed from their principles, nor will they ever do so for the sake of political expediency. The 45-month-old war has served to strengthen and safeguard the Muslim people of Iran against difficulties more than ever before. Thus, instances of political or propaganda blackmail, or resorting to military adventure, will not only fail to have any effect at all on the firm resolve of the revolutionary masses of Iran, but will serve to render them more determined and implacable.

Iraqi Fighter Planes Attack Turkish Tanker

LD031149 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1044 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] In the wake of the Security Council's ratification of the resolution sponsored by the Persian Gulf littoral states, correspondents, quoting naval sources in Manama, have announced that Iraqi fighter planes attacked the Turkish-owned oil tanker *Buyuk Hun* in Persian Gulf waters. The sources say that following the attack, which took place at 1030 today, Tehran time, they received signals indicating a fire on board the ship.

In the opinion of political circles, by ratifying a resolution condemning the Islamic Republic of Iran while neglecting to mention Iraq's attacks on oil tankers, the Security Council is in practice giving Iraq the most encouragement in its attacks on oil tankers owned by neutral countries. It should be recalled that U.S. President Reagan in a speech 2 days ago expressed support for Iraq's stance in attacking shipping in the Persian Gulf, saying: It is Iraq's right to attack oil tankers entering the Persian Gulf. [as heard]

Military Official: Exocets Used

LD031445 Tehran IRNA in English 1435 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA — Two days after the one-sided resolution of the UN Security Council on Friday, the Iraqi forces hit and damaged a Turkish oil tanker 50 kms south of Khark

Island this morning. All crew members of the tanker have reportedly been rescued by the Iranians and are safe.

The ship was hit at 10:35 local time (0705 GMT), and according to the latest dispatch at 15:00 pm (11:30 GMT) it was still ablaze. Iranian firemen were attempting to put out the fire.

A military official indicated that the Turkish tanker has been hit by the French-made Exocet missiles fired from Super Etendard planes. The tanker, which was on its way to load in the Khark Island oil terminal, was hit from a relatively long distance.

The Security Council in its latest resolution has turned a blind eye on the open admission by the Iraqi officials of having repeatedly hit several ships and tankers in the Persian Gulf waters.

In this resolution, on the request of five Persian Gulf sheikhdoms and the Saudi regime, the Islamic Republic of Iran was condemned. But Iran believes that the Security Council resolution, because of having failed in condemning the Iraqi regime, has provided the Iraqi Government with an official permission to continue its attacks on the oil tankers.

Turkey in 'Difficult Position'

GF040650 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] Although only (?a day) has passed since the resolution was adopted by the UN Security Council approving the GCC's complaint, another oil tanker, belonging to a Turkish shipping company, has been subjected to attack an by the Zionist regime in Baghdad.

Political observers in Ankara are alarmed that this attack was mounted only 3 days after a visit by Turgut Ozal to Iraq, particularly since the Iraqis had given numerous assurances to the visiting Turkish prime minister about Baghdad's concern for the safety of oil tankers in the Gulf. This places the Turkish Government in a very difficult position, particularly since the spokesman for the Turkish Foreign Ministry had condemned such acts by the Iraqi regime only the day before.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry has said in a statement that three crew members of this tanker had been injured and moved to Khark for medical treatment and that the partially damaged oil tanker was being towed to Bushehr by Iranian tugboats.

'Atlanticos' Attack Refuted; Tanker Loading at Khark

LD012042 Tehran IRNA in English 2032 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Khark Island, June 1, IRNA — The BBC and a number of other Zionist-imperialist news agencies reported this week that the Liberian-registered oil tanker *Atlanticos* has been hit by Iraqi missiles. Aboard the oil tanker which is currently loading at the Khark oil terminal, there are three American journalists who have been assigned "to investigate the morale of the personnel of the ships travelling to the Khark Island."

Upon learning about the presence of these journalists on the *Atlanticos*, the IRNA correspondent here went to see them and the captain of the Liberian oil tanker on Thursday. He also held a short talk with them. One of the journalists is from *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*, the other from *PHILADELPHIA ENQUIRER*, and the third, a woman, is a photographer-reporter of the *TIME* magazine.

The journalists said to an IRNA reporter that they had come to the island in order to investigate the morale of the personnel of the ships loading here and to find out whether travelling to this area was really difficult for the crew or not. They claimed that their publications had separately asked the shipowner to let them travel with the crew to the Khark Island, further saying that they did not know about the presence of each other on the ship. The journalists declined to comment on several questions raised by the IRNA reporter on the Iraq-Iran war and economic issues.

"I was shocked at the BBC news [report] that the *Atlanticos* has been hit," said the captain of the Liberian-registered oil tanker to the IRNA reporter. "This was totally false and the route was quite safe," he said. The captain said he had arrived here at 2210 hours May 28, and had started loading the same day. He said in the past two years he had travelled here more than ten times, each time berthing at the Khark easier than the previous time. He also said he had seen no unusual event on his route to the island and that he was ready to return to this region again.

In related news, the Mitsubishi Corporation said today that the 259,955-ton vessel was now loading crude oil at Iranian Khark Island terminal.

Greek Government Says Ships Free To Travel in Gulf

LD020754 Tehran IRNA in English 0720 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Athens, June 2, IRNA — The Government of Greece Friday announced that despite increasing attacks against foreign cargo ships in the Persian Gulf region, Greek ships were free to travel to the area. According to this report, the minister of merchant shipping of Greece said that his country would not prevent Greek ships from travelling to the Persian Gulf.

Greek Niarcus shipping company announced that as long as there was demands in the markets of the region, the company would dispatch its merchant ships to the Persian Gulf.

U.S. Warship Said Escorting Tanker to Bahrain

GF011710 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Sources close to the U.S. Defense Department, the Pentagon, reported last night that an American warship is currently escorting a tanker named (*Falcon Leader*), which is sailing to Bahrain to take on a shipment of oil for the U.S. Navy. The same sources said that the U.S. Navy normally sends nonmilitary tankers to the Persian Gulf ports to load up on oil necessary for the U.S. warships that cruise the Arabian Sea and the Sea of Philippines.

Singaporean Vessel Ambushed in Strait of Hormuz

GF031652 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A commercial vessel headed for Kuwait and [word indistinct] was passing through the Strait of Hormuz when it was ambushed by the armed guards of the Islamic Republic. The captain of this Singaporean vessel revealed that the guards violated all international norms and agreements, halted the vessel with threats to fire, and then insisted that the ship should head for Bandar 'Abbas. The captain said that the armed guards behaved like pirates and encountered the strong resistance from the crew. When they were categorically informed that no change of course would take place, they forcibly entered the ship's storage section on the pretext of checking it in order to plunder some of its smaller cargo. But the crew did not allow them to do it, and they were forced to return empty-handed after scattering the ship's documents and cargo lists.

The captain of the Singaporean vessel revealed these details after reaching his destination. He said that recently the armed officials of the Islamic regime have begun to intercept commercial vessels and have harassed the crew members.

Some time ago, Pakistani merchants had presented a six-point (?bill) to President Ziaul Haq and had demanded drastic measures against piracy by the Islamic Republic's Guards.

Japanese Official's Visit Not Aimed at War Mediation

LD030530 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] According to IRNA, the political director-general of the Africa and Middle East Department in the Japanese Foreign Affairs Ministry, Mr Yoshio Hatano, arrived in Tehran last night. After his arrival, he said: Iran and Japan enjoy good relations. We hope to improve these relations further through contacts between officials of the two countries.

In reply to a question as to whether he would play the role of a mediator in the Iran-Iraq war, he said that he has no such mission during his present trip and it is not among his basic duties to discuss this issue. Continuing his remarks, Mr Hatano added: I shall exchange views with officials from the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on bilateral issues. At the same time, it is possible that the issue of the war might be discussed in some way. For instance, we might discuss the possible effects of the war on the two countries' relations and what would happen to the Iranian exporting of oil to Japan as the result of this war. We might also discuss freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf, but the issue of mediation will not be raised in particular.

He went on: I must add that what I explained above is not my own personal view. Rather, talks were held with high-ranking Japanese officials in this connection before my departure from Tokyo.

Regarding Mr Hatano's trip to our country, the political director-general of the Asia and Oceania Department of our country's Foreign Affairs Ministry, referring to the need to maintain constant links between officials of the two countries in view of the volume of economic transactions, said: The visit of Mr Hatano is taking place for this purpose and within the framework of bilateral relations. During his meetings with officials from our country's Foreign Affairs Ministry, common issues of the two countries and international issues will be discussed.

The political director-general of the Asia and Oceania Department of our country's Foreign affairs Ministry added: The propaganda mouthpieces of global arrogance have created an adverse climate for Mr Hatano's trip. They say that he intends to mediate in the Iran-Iraq war, while the Japanese Government is fully aware of the stances of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and various Japanese officials have announced that they have no intention of mediation under any circumstances. The Japanese Government is aware that the Iraqi regime has many times trampled on international principles, regulations, and protocols which it has itself signed. Therefore, that regime is not worthy of any negotiations and, thus, this visit is not taking place with the intention of mediation between Iran and Iraq.

Envoy, Lavasani Hold Meeting

LD031811 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA — Japan's Foreign Ministry director general for Middle Eastern and African Affairs, Yoshio Hatano, today held his first round of talks with political director general for the Asia and Oceania Department of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani.

Bilateral relations between the two sides as well as important international issues were discussed during the meeting.

The Japanese envoy arrived here Saturday in order to meet with Iranian Foreign Ministry officials.

Algerian Assembly Speaker Arrives in Tehran

GF040600 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 4 Jun 84

[Text] Mr Rabah Bitat, speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly, arrived in Tehran this morning and was received at the airport by Mr Huseyn Ma'luji, member of the Presidium of the Iranian Majlis; several Majlis deputies; Foreign Ministry officials; Mr Abduhamid Adjali, the Algerian ambassador; and several members of the Algerian Embassy in Tehran.

Upon arrival, the speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly told our correspondent that he is bringing a message from Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, for Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly added that on this occasion he will discuss with Iranian officials the further expansion of the good and friendly relations existing between Iran and Algeria.

The speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly, in reply to a question as to whether his visit had anything to do with mediation regarding the war, said Algeria has never been a mediator. Algeria has very good relations with Iran and other countries throughout the world, and within this context Algeria follows a policy of discussion and consultation. He added that instead of using the term "mediation," we should say this journey is being made in order to conclude some good work.

According to our correspondent, Mr Rabah Bitat, speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly, during his short visit to Tehran, which incidentally coincides with the beginning of the second term of the Iranian Majlis, will also meet with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majlis.

Foreign Ministry Official Departs for USSR

LD031050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] At the invitation of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Mohammad Sadr, political director general for Europe and America at the Foreign Ministry, left for the USSR this morning. During his 3-day visit to Moscow he is to meet with Soviet Foreign Ministry officials.

Reza'i: U.S. Ships in Gulf Subject to Suicide Attacks

GF011140 Bandar 'Abbas Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 31 May 84

[Excerpts] According to a Central News Unit correspondent, in a 1-day seminar, Mr Mohsen Reza'i, the IRGC commander, spoke on the importance of the Persian Gulf and the problems of the imposed war. In part of his speech, he said: In the course of the war, a new situation has arisen. It began with the chemical bombings and has continued with the attacks on oil tankers in the Persian Gulf. The war is very closely connected with the Persian Gulf, because our oil exports, the basis of our economy, travel through the Persian Gulf, and our enemies will definitely try to end the war to their own benefit as soon as possible. Everyone will pay attention to (?them) and will enter the fray here. [as heard] Therefore, the further we advance in the war, the greater is the danger to the Persian Gulf.

Mr Reza'i added: Today, the United States and other enemies of the Islamic Revolution have become united behind one individual and one government, that is, the Ba'thist regime of Iraq. The Iraqi regime was not alone when it started the conspiracy of war against us. Saddam's plot began at the time Khomeyni left Iraq. After that it spread to Kordestan and other parts of our country. Hence, an insane and demented person cannot deceive our nation, because Saddam is in his own place and we are on our own land. Saddam destroyed all our economic resources in Abadan and Khorramshahr. As long as there is even one Ba'thist in Iraq, we should continue the war so that this impediment is removed from the Islamic revolution.

Continuing the seminar, Mr Rafiqdust, the IRGC minister, spoke of (?slanders) by the foreign radios and their spurious propaganda against the Islamic Revolution. In part of his speech he said: Today U.S. Government sources say that the danger of Islam is greater than the stoppage of oil. This is a fact. The United States understands and knows that if it wishes to enter the Persian Gulf, all its ships and aircraft carriers will be destroyed by suicide attacks and martyrdom. The IRGC minister added: The issue of Iraq, Saddam, and the Ba'thist Party is a barrier before the flood tide of the Islamic Revolution, and if this barrier is broken, all the reactionary rulers in the region will be swept away.

Mr Rafiqdust added: If it comes about that, God willing, we confront the [word indistinct] United States in our own territory, then let us attempt to recognize all its (?ruses).

The participants in the 1-day seminar of commanders of brigades, divisions, and garrisons of the Jerusalem corps visited (Larak) Island on some fast-moving picketboats of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy and spoke to the combatants and inspected the military installations in the area. Then they boarded the *Babr*, a destroyer, and inspected all its sections while officials explained the necessary things to them.

The cadre of *Babr* was addressed by Mr Mohsen Reza'i, the IRGC commander, who spoke of the deeds of the Islamic combatants in the Khaybar operations and the strength of the Navy. He especially lauded the noble personnel of the *Babr* for its guardianship of the Persian Gulf waters and the Strait of Hormuz.

At the end of this visit, the commander of the destroyer expressed his appreciation for the presence of the brother guards on this vessel.

NATO Countries Reluctant To Intervene in Gulf

LD022208 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1450 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Excerpt] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The title of today's program of 'Marginal Notes on the News' is the NATO foreign ministers' meeting in Washington. During the recent meeting of the NATO foreign ministers, held in Washington from Teusday to Thursday last week, there were many issues on the agenda, and each had special importance, but they were all overshadowed by two important issues, namely, the crisis in the Persian Gulf, and East-West relations.

The U.S. officials had openly said that an Iranian victory in the Persian Gulf war would be against American interests, and that therefore they do not want to see the overthrow of Saddam. On the other hand, the *SUNDAY TIMES*, printed in London, had reported that during the past few days, Moscow and Washington have, in a bilateral agreement, undertaken that neither of them would intervene in the Persian Gulf war directly. That wish [not to see the overthrow of Saddam] and the subsequent agreement, both of which are based on the very accurate calculations of U.S. policy-makers and their understanding of the international political environment, had confronted the United States with a difficult and complex situation.

For this reason it appears that the United States took advantage of the opportunity provided by NATO foreign ministers' conference in Washington to try to solve the problem. Although no detailed reports are yet available on the 3-day talks, it is certain that during the meeting the United States tried to convince the 16 member-countries of the NATO military alliance to line up all their political, economic, and military means alongside those of the United States and to use them on its behalf to support the shaky Baghdad regime; for the United States has carefully analysed the potential dangers of a tragedy from unilateral and direct intervention in this crisis and it has drawn a very clear picture for itself of the outcome which would result if it were to intervene directly in this region of the world.

It then becomes clear that the United States does not refrain from seizing such opportunities as the NATO meeting in an attempt to expand its influence and extend the role of NATO beyond its traditional limits. The manner in which the role of NATO has, during the past 35 years, gradually been transformed from a so-called defense treaty into a tool at the service of American interests and aggressive aims, not just in Europe but in any other corner of the world where it deems it necessary, is a phenomenon which could be investigated.

Another fact which became quite apparent is this: In today's international environment, U.S. diplomatic and military power can no longer solve the problems that this superpower creates for itself. Therefore, other NATO members have to agree to increase their own shares, albeit reluctantly, in order to implement the U.S. expansionist plans.

Nevertheless, in view of the numerous problems facing the European members of the NATO within and outside Europe, the United States cannot attach too much hope or rely on a coordinated, rapid, and decisive move of its allies in the Persian Gulf. One could come to this conclusion by glancing back at the events leading to the construction of gas pipelines from Siberia to Europe and the U.S. failure to stop the Europeans going through with the plan, as well as several other well known examples, all showing that the United States cannot always rely on its allies. Nonetheless, it should be kept in mind that countries such as Britain and France, with their clear colonial records which still view the Middle East and the Persian Gulf as parts of the world within their traditional sphere of influence, are undoubtedly in harmony with America's policy on the Middle East.

The situation of the Middle East and particularly the Persian Gulf region is at present so sensitive that during their talks in the recent NATO meetings, George Shultz and Geoffrey Howe, the foreign ministers of the United States and Britain, reached an agreement that diplomatic means are the only solution to the Persian Gulf crisis. This shows that European NATO, and even its most conservative wing, is terrified of the thought of an international clash in the Persian Gulf and is not in favor of extending NATO's sphere of operations to include the Persian Gulf. Joseph Luns, the NATO secretary general, who was the chairman for the last time of the recent NATO foreign ministers meetings and handed over the position to Lord Carrington, the new secretary general, in the opening session of the conference, despite praising the U.S. decision to dispatch the Stinger missiles to Arabia, strongly opposed any thoughts which might be interpreted as an extension of the NATO defense zone as far as the Persian Gulf.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,744

LD011826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Communique No 1,744 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Last night several Iraqi Ba'thist aircraft carried out an aerial aggression on Tabriz, resulting in the martyrdom of two persons and the injuring of several of our beloved compatriots. One enemy aggressor aircraft, a MIG-23, was hit by Air Force fighter planes and antiaircraft fire from the air defense units of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces. It crashed in open land in Varnaq and was destroyed. The pilot of the plane was killed. In the enemy air attack on Pol-e Dokhtar, our air defense units repelled the enemy aircraft's raids, and they were forced to flee before carrying out any significant operations.

On the fronts of the imposed war, battles continued as on previous days, with exchanges of fire and clashes between our forces and enemy patrols. The stalwart combatants of Islam fired on enemy patrols in the regions of Sumar, Naftshahr, (Ayn Khosh), and east of Basra, and pursued them, inflicting casualties and losses and totally thwarting enemy patrol operations in every area. Over the past 24 hours exchanges of fire were at their most intense in the regions of Mehran, (Sharahani), Zeydi, and the Majnun Islands, with Iraqi forces suffering casualties and losses described in reports as considerable, mainly in units that were on the move and supply columns.

On the fronts of Piranshah, Hajj 'Umran, and Panjwin, the border zone of Bakhtaran and Ilam, and the southern fronts, some sections of the Iraqi forward lines and heavy weapons and artillery emplacements were set ablaze and demolished, and some of their troops killed or wounded. In an exchange on the Arvand Rud fronts the brave Gendarmerie combatants' heavy shelling silenced enemy positions and arms that were firing on them and halted the Saddamist mercenaries' transport deployments on the Al-Faw-Basra axis. In addition, over six arms emplacements and observation posts were destroyed and a number of enemy troops were killed. The city of Abadan again came under bombardment from the Saddamist mercenaries' heavy weapons.

Communique No 1,745

LD021802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Communique No 1,745 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Over the past 24 hours, the battle between the Islamic combatants and the aggressor forces of the enemy continued,

with our troops maintaining their superior fire power. In the Piranshah, Sardasht, Hajj 'Umran and Panjwin theaters of operations, our fighting units fired on enemy artillery and mortar emplacements. In addition, the dispatch of reconnaissance patrols and ambush (squads) and continuous observation, together with firing on enemy mobile units, resulted in our gaining control of and checking their operations.

On the border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam, the Islamic forces maintained control over their positions and effectively defended the areas they were holding, while shelling of enemy concentrations resulted in the destruction of some enemy positions, fortifications, and observation posts belonging to the mercenaries, and the killing or wounding of numbers of Iraqi troops.

In the southern operational sector, there were clashes with the enemy, with exchanges of fire occurring. The Iraqi forces' positions on the various fronts of the region came under fire from our combatants, and casualties and losses were inflicted on the aggressors. On the banks of the Arvand Rud, our troops shot at enemy fortifications and installations on the west bank, stopping the enemy's engineering works and deployments.

As a result of long-range bombardment by the enemy, some damage was inflicted on residential areas of Abadan.

Communique No 1,746
Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Communique No 1,746 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] During the past 24 hours, exchanges of fire continued on the northwestern fronts of the country, from Piranshah to Panjwin between the victorious combatants of Islam and the Iraqi forces.

Our forces opened fire on foxholes and slit trenches. Moving enemy troops, our forces destroyed a considerable number of infantry positions and heavy weapons of the Saddamist mercenaries and killed at least 10 enemy soldiers. Our forces also destroyed one mortar launcher and a tank belonging to the Iraqi forces. On the other fronts of the imposed war, exchanges of fire and limited confrontations between our patrol groups and the enemy continued, and the combatants of Islam fortified their defensive positions and carefully observed the movements and activities of the Saddamist forces. Our forces opened artillery and mortar fire on Iraqi forces and inflicted damage and casualties on them.

In the southern region, one enemy ammunition depot was set on fire and completely destroyed. On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the courageous personnel of the Navy and the warriors of the Gendarmerie defended and continued to fortify their positions, and opened fire on enemy positions and units stationed on the other side of the Arvand Rud, and in the Fao region. While halting the traffic of enemy vehicles on Fao-Basrah route and disrupting their engineering activities, more than 17 weapons emplacements and personnel positions of the Saddamists were set on fire and destroyed. A number of enemy personnel were either killed or wounded. The city of Abadan came under sporadic fire by Saddamist forces yesterday.

President Khamene'i Meets With Defense Minister
LD031753 Tehran IRNA in English 1747 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA — President Khamene'i, who is also head of the Supreme Defence Council, met and conferred with the Minister of Defence, Colonel Mohammad Salimi, here today.

In the meeting a report on the present and future plans of the Ministry were presented to the president.

Meanwhile the head of the Foundation for the Oppressed, Br. Tabatabai, today met with president and discussed the foundation's plans, particularly its plan to improve the living conditions in the rural areas.

Dashti, Tangestan Volunteers Depart for War Fronts
GF021919 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Summary] According to a report by the Central News Unit, in continuation of the departure of volunteers from Bushehr to the fronts of the war of right against wrong, groups of volunteers from Dashti and Tangestan left Khormowj for the fronts amidst a very warm and enthusiastic sendoff.

The Borazjan Islamic Revolution Guards in a statement also handed over to the Central News Unit announced that the Mohammad Rasul Allah Battalion will be leaving for the fronts this coming Tuesday, and hence all those who have already participated in the war, have had military training, or have served their conscription period, as well as those who have participated in Labaayk Ya Khomeyni training period, may join this battalion for departure for the fronts.

The mobilization unit of the Dayyer Revolution Guards Corps in a statement reported by the Central News Unit has announced that the (Meysan Tammar) Company will be going to the fronts on 5 June, and all those who have already had military experience or have participated in the war may join and be dispatched to the fronts.

In a related statement, the unit for the mobilization of the oppressed in Dayyer has announced that cooks, drivers, and operators of loaders and bulldozers are needed to volunteer for dispatching to the fronts in order to aid the battle of their brothers against the dark forces of the Saddamists.

The Borazjan Red Crescent Society in a statement has published the list of the needs of the fronts. According to a dispatch by the Central News Unit, these needs include: medicine, lemon juice, herb juices, fruit juices, and water flasks. The donations can be handed over to the organization.

The Borazjan mobilization department of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has informed all those who have registered for

military training to contact the department for dispatch to training centers tomorrow morning.

Hormozgan Volunteers for IRGC Asked To Report

GF031620 Bandar 'Abbas Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of the Hormozgan naval precincts hereby informs those brothers who have received the necessary training that the next dispatch dates for the fronts of truth versus falsehood will be on Sunday every week. Therefore, volunteers can report to the Corps' enlistment department on Pasdaran Boulevard.

Bushehr Province Volunteers Leave for Fronts

GF031656 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Summary] A group of reconstruction crusade personnel from various areas of Bushehr Province left the city of Bushehr for the war fronts today. They numbered 130.

The Central News Unit also reports the departure of a group of Borazjan mobilization volunteers for the military training center today. A large group of hezbollahi youth from Dashti left for training centers after a warm sendoff today. People of Genaveh also sent a group of their youth to training centers this morning.

SAIRI Ramadan Statement Calls for Uprising in Iraq

LD031749 Tehran IRNA in English 1631 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA — The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) in a statement issued today, coinciding with the beginning of the holy fasting month of Ramadan and the fourth term of the SAIRI, expressed hope that this term of the SAIRI would be that of unity and fulfillment of the ultimate victory and the downfall of the Ba'thist regime of Saddam.

In part the statement noted that the recent adventurism by Saddam and other lackeys of the global arrogance in the Persian Gulf against the Islamic Republic was a sign of the Iraqi regime's reaching a dead-end. The SAIRI in its statement called on all the Muslims of Iraq, Iran and the world to rise unitedly against the plots of world unbelief and mobilise themselves against world arrogance. The statement also called on the Iraqi revolutionary Muslims increase to participation in the battlefronts and speed up the downfall of the Iraqi regime and its lackeys.

Supreme Judicial Council Issues Amnesty Decree

LD032022 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, agreed with the proposal of Mr Musavi-Ardabili, head of the State Supreme Court, concerning amnesty of some prisoners on the occasion of the day of God, 15 Khordad [5 June]

On the basis of this proposal, all individuals who have been convicted on the verdicts of the ordinary Islamic revolution and military courts, whose conviction verdicts have been issued and finalized by 5 June, and who have been sentenced to flogging, imprisonment, and fines, will be pardoned under certain conditions, on the occasion of the start of the 22d anniversary of the day of God, 15 Khordad, the beginning of the Islamic movement of Iran.

In this connection, a circular was issued by the head of the Supreme Judicial Council addressed to all public prosecutors' offices, and Islamic Revolution and military courts, as follows:

On the occasion of the anniversary of the day of God, 15 Khordad, all convicts whose convictions have been finalized by ordinary revolution and military courts by 15 Khordad, whether they are still in prison or not yet sent to prison, are covered by the amnesty as follows:

Those sentenced to up to 6 months' imprisonment: Their sentences will be suspended for 2 years.

Those sentenced to 1 year's imprisonment: If they have served half their sentences, the rest of their sentence will be suspended for 2 years.

Those sentenced to up to 5 years' imprisonment: If they have served a third of their sentences, the rest of their sentence will be suspended for 3 years.

Those sentences to up to 10 years: If they have served a quarter of their sentences, the rest of their sentences will be suspended for 4 years.

Those sentenced to more than 10 years: If they have served a fifth of their sentence, the rest will be suspended for 5 yeyars.

Those sentenced to life imprisonment: Their sentences will be reduced to 15 years.

Those sentenced to flogging: Their sentence will be suspended for 2 years.

Clause A of the circular states: Those pardoned once only in the past are also covered by this amnesty.

According to Clause B of the said note, those who have been sentenced to cash fines and have been imprisoned for not paying their fines will be released if they make arrangements to pay them. Those who are bankrupt — whose bankrupcy has been determined to be up to 500,000 rials by the prosecutor and from 500,000 rials upwards by the religious judge — will be released; if their sentences include imprisonment, these will be covered by the said regulations.

Clause C of the said note states: In all cases, if there are private claimants or plaintiffs, their consent must be obtained. Accord-

ing to Clause D, those exiled for up to 6 months will be pardoned; for those exiled for more than 6 months, if they have served a third of their sentence and if their return does not disturb the peace, the rest of their sentence will be suspended for 2 years.

Also, according to Clause E, those convicts who are over 60, if they are disabled, old, or unable to serve their sentences, will be released on the presentation of certificates from the medical examiner or his deputy and with the approval of the prosecutor; if their sentences also include cash fines, Clause B will apply.

Clause F of the said note states: If all cases where the rest of the sentences are suspended, the prosecutor concerned shall take action by obtaining suitable security, bail, and bond.

Clause G of the said note states: It should become obvious to the prosecutor that prison has affected them and that they are repentant.

According to Clause H, all convicts who satisfy the conditions and criteria stipulated in this decree will be covered by it wherever Clause C applies.

Clauses I and J state: The decrees only cover those who satisfy the conditions by the end of 22 September. Convicted drug addicts, if they have given up their habits, will be covered by this decree, if they present certificates from rehabilitation centers; if they are in prison, they must produce a certificate from the medical examiner and with the approval of the prosecutor.

In the second part of the circular, the following crimes are excluded from the amnesty: Embezzlement and receiving bribes, from 500,000 rials upwards; unlawful possession of public property; plundering public funds; armed robbery; highway robbery; robberies with aggravated circumstances; the subject of Articles 222, 223, and 224 of the public penal code; fraud; betraying confidence; assault; importers, manufacturers, and distributors of narcotics, up to 5 grams, and up to 50 grams of opiates; crimes committed by counterrevolutionary groups; those who have waged war against God, unless they were plain supporters and have repented, and whose repentance has been accepted by the prosecuting religious judge; those effective members of the Zalleh sect; spies; and those whose release from prison would obviously disrupt the peace and create a pessimistic atmosphere in the society, as determined by the prosecutor.

At the end of the circular, it is noted: The publication of this decree by the mass media should be considered official; all the ordinary revolution and military prosecutors' offices are duty-bound to follow the amnesty regulations regarding those who satisfy the conditions stipulated in the decree, and send the results to the Office of Amnesty and Pardon as soon as possible.